

DIRECTORY OF WORSHIP

FOR

THE REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES

[PARTIAL EDITION.]



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THE CHURCH FESTIVALS.

The movable festivals, with the exception of Advent Sunday are determined by Easter, which is the first Sunday next after the full-moon that happens upon or next after the twenty-first of March, but if this full-moon happens upon Sunday, Easter will be the next Sunday after.

Septuagesima is nine weeks, Sexagesima eight weeks, Quinquagesima seven weeks, and the first Sunday in Lent six weeks, respectively, *before* Easter. Ash Wednesday is the Wednesday after Quinquagesima, Ascension Day is forty days, Whitsunday seven weeks, and Trinity Sunday eight weeks, respectively, *after* Easter.

Advent Sunday is always the nearest Sunday to the thirtieth of November, whether before or after.

Christmas always falls on the twenty-fifth of December, Epiphany on the sixth of January, and Good Friday in the week preceding Easter.

All days appointed, by proper Ecclesiastical or Civil authority, for fasting or thanksgiving, are to be duly respected and observed.

RULE FOR DETERMINING EASTER IN ANY YEAR.

1. Divide the number of the year by 19, and call the remainder a .
2. " " " " 4, " " b .
3. " " " " 7, " " c .
4. " " $(19a + M)$ 30, " " d .
5. " " $(2b + 4c + 6d + N)$ 7, " " e .

In the Gregorian Calendar, M and N will have the following values:

	M.	N.
From 1582 to 1699.....	22	3
1700 to 1799.....	23	3
1800 to 1899.....	23	4
1900 to 1999.....	24	5
2000 to 2099.....	24	5
2100 to 2199.....	24	6
2200 to 2299.....	25	0
2300 to 2399.....	26	1
2400 to 2499.....	25	1

6. Easter will be $(22 + d + e)$ of March, or $(d + e - 9)$ of April

If a number is obtained beyond the 24th of April, seven days must be subtracted to get the correct time of Easter.

**A TABLE OF MOVABLE FESTIVALS
FROM 1898-1914.**

Year.	Sundays after Epiphany.	Septuagesima.	Ash Wednesday.	Easter.	Ascension Day.	Whitsunday	Sundays after Trinity.	Advent.
1898	4 Feb. 6	Feb. 23	Apr. 10	May 19	May 29	24	Nov. 27	
1899	3 Jan. 29	Feb. 15	Apr. 2	May 11	May 21	26	Dec. 3	
1900	5 Feb. 11	Feb. 28	Apr. 15	May 24	June 3	24	Dec. 2	
1901	3 Feb. 3	Feb. 20	Apr. 7	May 16	May 26	25	Dec. 1	
1902	2 Jan. 26	Feb. 12	Mar. 30	May 8	May 18	26	Nov. 30	
1903	4 Feb. 8	Feb. 25	Apr. 12	May 21	May 31	24	Nov. 29	
1904	3 Jan. 31	Feb. 17	Apr. 3	May 12	May 22	25	Nov. 27	
1905	6 Feb. 19	Mar. 8	Apr. 23	June 1	June 11	23	Dec. 3	
1906	5 Feb. 11	Feb. 28	Apr. 15	May 24	June 3	24	Dec. 2	
1907	2 Jan. 27	Feb. 13	Mar. 31	May 9	May 19	26	Dec. 1	
1908	5 Feb. 16	Mar. 4	Apr. 19	May 28	June 7	23	Nov. 29	
1909	4 Feb. 7	Feb. 24	Apr. 11	May 20	May 30	24	Nov. 23	
1910	2 Jan. 23	Feb. 9	Mar. 27	May 5	May 15	26	Nov. 27	
1911	5 Feb. 12	Mar. 1	Apr. 16	May 25	June 4	24	Dec. 3	
1912	4 Feb. 4	Feb. 21	Apr. 7	May 16	May 26	25	Dec. 1	
1913	1 Jan. 19	Feb. 5	Mar. 23	May 1	May 11	27	Nov. 30	
1914	4 Feb. 8	Feb. 25	Apr. 12	May 21	May 31	24	Nov. 29	

A TABLE OF LOGARITHMS FROM 1000 TO 10000

1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009
3.0000	3.0043	3.0086	3.0129	3.0172	3.0215	3.0258	3.0301	3.0344	3.0387
1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017	1018	1019
3.0430	3.0473	3.0516	3.0559	3.0602	3.0645	3.0688	3.0731	3.0774	3.0817
1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025	1026	1027	1028	1029
3.0860	3.0903	3.0946	3.0989	3.1032	3.1075	3.1118	3.1161	3.1204	3.1247
1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038	1039
3.1290	3.1333	3.1376	3.1419	3.1462	3.1505	3.1548	3.1591	3.1634	3.1677
1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045	1046	1047	1048	1049
3.1720	3.1763	3.1806	3.1849	3.1892	3.1935	3.1978	3.2021	3.2064	3.2107
1050	1051	1052	1053	1054	1055	1056	1057	1058	1059
3.2150	3.2193	3.2236	3.2279	3.2322	3.2365	3.2408	3.2451	3.2494	3.2537
1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065	1066	1067	1068	1069
3.2580	3.2623	3.2666	3.2709	3.2752	3.2795	3.2838	3.2881	3.2924	3.2967
1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075	1076	1077	1078	1079
3.3010	3.3053	3.3096	3.3139	3.3182	3.3225	3.3268	3.3311	3.3354	3.3397
1080	1081	1082	1083	1084	1085	1086	1087	1088	1089
3.3440	3.3483	3.3526	3.3569	3.3612	3.3655	3.3698	3.3741	3.3784	3.3827
1090	1091	1092	1093	1094	1095	1096	1097	1098	1099
3.3870	3.3913	3.3956	3.3999	3.4042	3.4085	3.4128	3.4171	3.4214	3.4257

THE REGULAR SERVICE
OF
THE LORD'S DAY.

The Congregation standing, the Minister shall begin the service with a free Invocation; or he may say:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Or,

GRACE be unto you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our minds, we beseech Thee, by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that, being delivered from every unholy motion of the flesh and spirit, we may perfectly love Thee, with a pure heart and sanctified lips worship Thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Or in place of the preceding prayer the following may be used:

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the

truth is not in us ; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us, therefore, humble ourselves before the throne of almighty God, our heavenly Father, and confess our manifold sins and transgressions with lowly and contrite hearts, that we may obtain forgiveness of the same through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Then shall be repeated the following Confession :

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, our heavenly Father, we draw nigh unto Thee under a deep sense of our unworthiness and guilt. We have grievously sinned against Thee in thought, in word and in deed. We have come short of thy glory. We have broken thy commandments, and turned aside every one of us from the way of life, and in ourselves there is no soundness nor health. Yet now, O most merciful Father, hear us when we call upon Thee with penitent hearts; and for the sake of thy Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us. Pardon our sins, and grant us thy peace. Take away our guilt. Purify us by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit from all inward uncleanness; and make us able and willing to serve Thee in newness of life to the glory of thy holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the Minister shall say :

ALMIGHTY GOD, who desireth not the death of the sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, and who gave his only Son, Jesus Christ, as a sacrifice and propitiation for the sins of the whole world, have mercy upon you,

pardon you, and deliver you from your sins, establish you in his grace, grant unto you his Holy Spirit, and bring you to life everlasting, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Here, and at the end of every Collect and Prayer, the Congregation may say *Amen*.

A Psalm or Hymn shall now be sung, or the Gloria in Excelsis as follows :

GLORY be to God on high, and on earth peace, good-will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy ; Thou only art the Lord ; Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Then shall the Minister read the proper Epistle and Gospel, or the Scripture Lessons, for the day, or some other suitable portion of Scripture.

After the reading, the Congregation standing, the service shall proceed as follows (the Gloria Patri and the Creed may, however, be omitted) :

GLORY be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost :

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen*.

Here the people may join in repeating the Apostles' Creed.

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth :

And in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten Son, our Lord ; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary ; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried ; He descended into hades ; the third day He rose from the dead ; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty ; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost ; the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints ; the forgiveness of sins ; the resurrection of the body ; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Let us pray.

Here may be offered the Collect for the day, and after this one of the following General Prayers, or the Minister shall offer such other Prayer as in his judgment is requisite and fitting. On Festival days the first two Collects of the following Prayers shall be omitted and the proper Festival Prayer used in their stead.

I.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us and to all men. We praise Thee for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life ; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech Thee, give us such due sense of all thy mercies that our hearts may be

unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service and by walking before Thee in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end.

GOD of all power and glory, who hast not appointed us unto wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, perfect and fulfil in us, we beseech Thee, the work of thy redeeming mercy, that, being delivered more and more from our sins, we may be able to serve Thee in newness of life. Sanctify us in body, soul and spirit and guide us evermore in the way of peace. Help us to overcome the world. Beat down Satan under our feet. Give us courage to confess Christ always, and patience to endure in his service unto the end; that, having finished our course with joy, we may rest in hope, and attain finally to the resurrection of the just, through the infinite merits of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

O THOU God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, cause thy blessing, we beseech Thee, to rest upon the Church, which He has purchased with his most precious blood. Illuminate her ministers with true knowledge and understanding of thy word. Send down the healthful dew of thy grace upon all her congregations. Deliver her from false doctrine, heresy and schism, and clothe her with the beauty of holiness and peace. Establish and reveal thy glory among all nations. By the tranquil working of thy per-

petual providence, confound and destroy all wicked devices formed against thy holy Word, and bring in speedily the full victory of thine everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

ALMIGHTY GOD, King of kings and Lord of lords, from whom proceedeth all power and dominion in heaven and on earth, most heartily we beseech Thee to look with favor upon thy servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this Commonwealth and all others in authority. Imbue them with the spirit of wisdom, goodness and truth; and so rule their hearts and bless their endeavors that law and order, justice and peace, may everywhere prevail. Preserve us from public calamities, from pestilence and famine, from war, privy conspiracy and rebellion, but especially from national sins and corruption. Make us strong and great in the fear of God and in the love of righteousness, so that, being blessed of Thee, we may become a blessing to all nations, to the praise of the glory of thy grace, through Jesus Christ.

O GOD, the creator and preserver of all mankind, we implore thy mercy in behalf of all classes and conditions of men, that it may please Thee to visit them with thy most compassionate help, according to their manifold necessities and wants. Especially do we beseech Thee to show pity upon all widows and orphans, upon all prisoners and captives, upon all sick and dying persons, upon those who are desolate or sore afflicted in any way, and upon all such as are persecuted for righteousness' sake. Enable them to look unto Thee, O most merciful Father, and to call upon thy name,

that they may find Thee a present Saviour in their affliction and distress. And let it please Thee to deliver them, and raise them up in due time, giving them patience under all their sufferings, the rich comfort of thy grace here below and eternal rest with Thee in heaven, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Here may be introduced any special Collect or Petition suitable to the occasion.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto Thee, and dost promise that where two or three are gathered together in thy name Thou wilt grant their requests, fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them, granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

II.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, our heavenly Father, we acknowledge and confess before thy divine majesty that we are sinners, conceived and born in sin, prone to do evil and unable of ourselves to do any good, and that by frequent transgressions of thy holy commandments we have incurred thy righteous sentence of condemnation and death. But, O Lord, we do most heartily repent of all our sins. We condemn ourselves and our iniquities, and beseech Thee by thy grace to help our infirmities. Have mercy upon us, O God, and for the sake of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, pardon all our offenses and shortcomings; and vouchsafe unto us the grace of thy Holy Spirit,

that we may die more and more unto sin; and bring forth the fruits of righteousness and holiness to the praise of thy great name.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Creator of heaven and earth, we give Thee most hearty thanks for our creation, preservation, and especially for our redemption through the bitter passion and death of thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. We bless Thee for all the help and succor Thou hast given us in our necessities, for thy fatherly comfort in our tribulations, for the means of grace and for the hope of glory. And we beseech Thee ever to preserve in our hearts such gratitude for thy manifold mercies that we may continually show forth thy praise. Renew us also more and more by thy word and Spirit in the image of thy Son, that we may honor and glorify Thee, until we come at last, through all the trials of this present life, into the glory of thy heavenly kingdom.

Here may be introduced any special Collect or Petition suitable to the occasion.

O GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, grant, we beseech Thee, thy blessing upon the Church which He has redeemed with his most precious blood. Extend her borders, and preserve her from all the assaults of her enemies. Send down thy heavenly grace upon all her pastors and congregations, and unite all thy people in the bonds of truth, of righteousness and of peace. Increase the number of faithful missionaries of thy Word, so that the waste places of thy Zion may be speedily supplied. Send out thy light and thy truth throughout the whole world, and

hasten the day when all thy foes shall be put to shame and Thou shalt bring in the full victory of thine everlasting kingdom.

ALMIGHTY GOD, King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone hast all power in heaven and in earth, regard with special favor, we beseech Thee, our land and nation. Bless thy servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this State, our legislators and all that are in authority over us. Endow them with such gifts as may be needful to the faithful discharge of their duties, and establish us as a people in righteousness and peace. Preserve us from all public calamities, from famine and pestilence, from war and bloodshed, but especially from all national sins; and grant that peace and prosperity, truth and justice, virtue and religion, may be preserved among us through all generations.

O God, the merciful preserver of all thy creatures, hear our prayers and supplications, we humbly beseech Thee, in behalf of all ranks and conditions of men. Comfort and sustain the poor and needy, the sick and the afflicted, the widow and the fatherless, the oppressed and the persecuted, and all such as are in distress, whether of body, mind or estate. Reveal Thyself unto them as the God of all grace and consolation, and grant them strength to endure their trials with patience and resignation to thy holy will, and at last give them a happy deliverance out of all their troubles, and an entrance into thy eternal rest in heaven, through Jesus Christ, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and praise, world without end. *Amen.*

A Psalm or Hymn shall now be sung.

Then the Minister shall deliver the Sermon.

After the Sermon the Minister shall offer a free Prayer, to be followed by the Lord's Prayer, or he may use the Lord's Prayer alone, or proceed as follows :

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, fountain of all goodness and truth, receive our thanks for the lively oracles of thy grace, which are able to make us wise unto everlasting life; and mercifully grant, we beseech Thee, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears may, through thy blessing, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of thy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom, defend us, thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies, that we, surely trusting in thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of our glorious Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Here let the Congregation join aloud in the Lord's Prayer.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the

kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.

The Deacons shall now collect the Offerings of the people, and the Minister may make any necessary Announcements.

Then a Psalm or Hymn shall be sung, ending with the Doxology.

After which the Minister shall close the whole service with the apostolic Benediction.

THE grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. *Amen.*

THE LITANY.

O God, the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us.

O God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us.

O God, the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, three persons and one God, have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers, neither take Thou vengeance of our sins; spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom Thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us forever.

Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and harm, from the power of sin and the snares of the Devil, from thy wrath and from everlasting damnation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

The Litany.

13

From all blindness of heart, from pride, vain-glory and hypocrisy, from envy, hatred and malice, and all uncharitableness,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all impure lusts and desires, and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh and the Devil,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning, tempest and earthquake, from plague, pestilence and famine, from all disasters by land and by water, from battle and murder and from sudden death,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From tumult and riot, from sedition and rebellion, from heresy and schism, from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word and authority,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy incarnation, by thy holy nativity and circumcision, by thy baptism, fasting and temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By thine agony and bloody sweat, by thy cross and passion, by thy precious death and burial, by thy glorious resurrection and ascension, and by the coming of the Holy Ghost,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation, in all time of our prosperity, in the hour of death and in the day of judgment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.
Son of God, we beseech Thee to hear us.

That it may please Thee to keep us in all time
of temptation and sorrow, to comfort and help all
the weak-hearted, to raise up them that fall and
finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

That it may please Thee to succor, help and
comfort all that are in danger, necessity and tribu-
lation,

We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

That it may please Thee to rule and govern thy
holy Church universal in the right way, to illumi-
nate all pastors and ministers with true knowledge
and understanding of thy word, and to bless and
preserve all Christian rulers and magistrates, giv-
ing them grace to execute justice and to maintain
truth,

We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all travelers
and strangers, all women in the perils of child-
birth, all sick persons and young children, and to
show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives,

We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

That it may please Thee to defend and provide
for the fatherless children, and widows, and all
that are desolate and oppressed,

We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

That it may please Thee to have mercy upon all
men,

We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

O Son of God, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the
world,
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the
world,
Grant us thy peace.

O GOD, merciful Father, who despisest not the
sighing of the contrite nor rejectest the desire of
the sorrowful, be favorable to our prayers which,
in our afflictions that continually oppress us, we
pour out before Thee; and graciously hear them,
that those things which the craft of the Devil or
man worketh against us may be brought to naught,
and by the counsel of thy goodness be dispersed,
so that, being hurt by no persecutions, we may ever-
more give thanks unto Thee in thy holy Church,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good
counsels and all just works do proceed, give unto
thy servants that peace which the world cannot
give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy com-
mandments, and also that we, being defended
from the fear of our enemies, may by thy protec-
tion pass our time in peace and quietness, through
Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS

FOR

SPECIAL OCCASIONS.

PRAYERS.

For the Opening of a Synod or Classis.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who by thy Holy Spirit didst preside in the first Synod of the apostles and elders at Jerusalem, and hast promised to be with thy Church always even unto the end of the world, vouchsafe, we pray Thee, unto us thy servants here assembled thy gracious presence and benediction. Deliver us from all error, pride and prejudice. Enlighten us with wisdom from above. Fill our hearts with the spirit of unity and peace; and so order and govern us in all our doings, that the kingdom of Satan may be broken down, thy people comforted and established in their most holy faith, and the pure gospel truly preached and truly followed; until at length all thy dispersed sheep shall be gathered into the one fold of the great Shepherd, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom be glory forever. *Amen.*

For the Catechumens.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who dost, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord, accept the

Prayers and Thanksgivings 17

intercessions of thy people, remember in thy great mercy, we beseech Thee, the catechumens in this congregation and throughout thy whole Church. By thy Holy Spirit inwardly enlighten and instruct them in the knowledge of Thee and divine things; open the ears of their hearts to be occupied with thy law day and night; strengthen and confirm them in religion; unite them more closely with Thyself and thy flock; deliver them from all iniquity, and give no place to the adversary to get advantage against them. Cleanse them from all pollution of flesh and spirit, and let the indwelling of thy grace be evermore their strength and safety. Prepare them for the full communion of thy Church here, and for thy presence and glory in heaven, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

For the Opening of the Year.

ALMIGHTY and eternal God, with whom one day is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day, we bring Thee thanks and praise for thy blessings, more than we can number, with which Thou hast crowned our lives during the year now past; and since thy mercies are ever new, let the year which has now begun be to us a year of grace and salvation. Have pity upon us in our misery, whose days are as the grass. Deliver us from the vanity of our fallen nature, and establish us in the fellowship of that life which is the same yesterday and to-day and forever. Graciously protect and conduct us through the uncertainties of this new year of our earthly pilgrimage. Prepare us for its duties and trials, its joys and sorrows. Help us to watch and pray, and to be always ready like men

that wait for their Lord ; and grant that every change, whether it be of prosperity or adversity, of life or of death, may bring us nearer to Thee and to that great eternal year of joy and rest, which, after the years of this vain earthly life, awaits the faithful in thy blissful presence, where we shall unite, from everlasting to everlasting, with angels and saints, in ascribing blessing and honor and glory and power unto Him who sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb forever and ever. *Amen.*

For a Sick Person.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, of thine infinite goodness grant unto the soul of thy servant the anointing of the Holy Ghost, who is the Spirit of all strength, comfort, relief and gladness. Vouchsafe for thy great mercy, if it be thy blessed will, to restore unto *him* bodily health and strength to serve Thee ; and send *him* release of all *his* pains, troubles and diseases, both in body and mind. And howsoever thy goodness, by thy divine and unsearchable providence, may dispose of *him*, we, thine unworthy servants, humbly beseech thy eternal Majesty to do with *him* according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, and to pardon all *his* sins and offenses committed by *his* bodily senses, passions and carnal affections. Vouchsafe also mercifully to grant unto *him* ghostly strength, by thy Holy Spirit, to withstand and overcome all temptations and assaults of the adversary, that in no wise he prevail against *him*, but that *he* may have perfect victory and triumph against the Devil, sin and death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his death hath overcome the prince of death, and with the Father and the Holy Ghost

evermore liveth and reigneth God, world without end. *Amen.*

Or this :

HOLY Father, healer of souls and bodies, who didst send thine only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, healing every disease and redeeming from death, heal thy servant also of the sickness of soul and body which encompasses *him*, and quicken *him* through the grace of thy Christ; for Thou, O Christ, our God, art the fountain of healing, and to Thee, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, we ascribe all honor and praise. *Amen.*

For Christian Missions.

O ALMIGHTY God, whose dearly beloved Son, after his resurrection from the dead, did send his apostles into all the world to preach the gospel to every creature, hear, we beseech Thee, the prayers of thy people, and look down in thy compassion upon the multitudes that are as sheep having no shepherd, and upon the fields now white unto the harvest. Bless those thy servants who, after the example of thy first missionaries, have gone far hence to the Gentiles, and prosper Thou their work of faith and labor of love. Send forth more laborers into thy harvest, to gather fruit unto life eternal. And grant us grace and power to be fellow-workers with them by our prayers and offerings, that we may also rejoice with them in thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

THANKSGIVINGS.

A General Thanksgiving.

O GOD, giver of all good and fountain of all mercies, in whom are the springs of our life, all glory, thanks and praise be unto Thee for thine ever-flowing goodness, for thy faithfulness, which is from one generation to another, for thy mercies, which are new every morning, fresh every moment and more than we can number, for seed-time and harvest, and summer and winter, and nights and days, throughout the year, for food and raiment and shelter, for health and reason, for childhood and age, and youth and manhood, for thy fatherly hand ever upon us in sickness and in health, in joy and in sorrow, in life and in death, for friends and kindred and kind benefactors, for home and country, for thy Church and for thy gospel, yea, Lord, for that there is nothing for which we may not bless and thank Thee. And therefore do we take the cup of salvation and call upon thy name, and pay our vows now in the presence of all thy people, humbly beseeching Thee to accept this our becoming service and bounden duty, even as we offer it, in the name and through the infinite merits of thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving for Harvest.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we yield Thee hearty thanks for all thy goodness, and especially for this thy bounty again bestowed upon us, who, through thy providence and tender mercy, have

now reaped the fruits of the earth in due season and gathered them into our garners. Give us power to use the same to thy glory, to the relief of those that are needy and to our own comfort. Continue, we beseech Thee, thy loving kindness toward us, that year by year our land may yield her increase, filling our hearts with joy and gladness; and so dispose us by thy special grace that we, thy servants, may never sow only to the flesh, lest of the flesh we reap corruption, but may sow spiritually to life everlasting, and reap the same in thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION.

PREPARATION FOR THE HOLY COMMUNION.

The Congregation standing, the Minister shall say :

THE Lord is in his holy temple ; let all the earth keep silence before Him. *Amen.*

GOD spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth ; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them, for I, the Lord thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me, and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me and keep my commandments.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work ; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God ; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou nor thy son nor thy daughter, thy manservant nor thy maidservant nor thy cattle nor thy stranger

that is within thy gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife nor his manservant nor his maidservant nor his ox nor his ass nor any thing that is thy neighbor's.

Hear also what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Then the Minister may offer free Prayer, or proceed as follows:

Let us pray.

O LORD GOD, who didst at first deliver thy commandments from the mount which burned with fire, amid blackness and darkness and tempest, at which terrible sight even Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake, we thank Thee that this same law is now published unto us from mount Zion, through the Mediator of a new and better

covenant; and we humbly beseech Thee to put these words into our minds and write them in our hearts, that we may delight in thy law after the inward man, and serve Thee in newness of spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Here may be introduced any additional Prayers suitable to the occasion.

A Psalm or Hymn may now be sung.

The Minister may then deliver a brief Sermon or Address.

Then the Minister shall address the people, as follows :

BELOVED IN THE LORD: Our blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ, when He was about to finish the work of our redemption by making Himself a sacrifice for our sins upon the cross, solemnly instituted the Holy Sacrament of his body and blood, that it might be the abiding memorial of his precious death, the seal of his perpetual presence in the Church by the Holy Ghost, the mystical exhibition of his one offering of Himself made once, but of force always, to put away sin, the pledge of his undying love to his people, and the bond of his living union and fellowship with them to the end of time.

It has not been without reason, therefore, that the celebration of the Lord's Supper has ever been regarded by the Church as the inmost sanctuary of the whole Christian worship. We have to do here, not with outward signs merely, but with the heavenly realities which these signs represent. Therefore, it is plain that the table of the Lord

can be rightly approached only by those who are of a devout, repentant and believing mind. This holy mystery is not for the profane, the irreverent or the indifferent.

If any of you, then, are conscious that you are the willing servants of sin, that you are without true repentance and faith, we solemnly warn and admonish you that ye presume not, so long as this is your character, to come to the table of the Lord. For those doing so eat and drink judgment to themselves; not because they are sinners, but because they are impenitent sinners; not because they are unworthy, but because they eat and drink unworthily, not discerning the Lord's body.

On the other hand, we cordially invite to this table all who are truly grieved and penitent for their sins, who look to the Lord Jesus Christ for righteousness and salvation, all who abide in the fellowship of his Church, and who earnestly desire to possess his Spirit and to walk in his ways. To all such the infinitely compassionate Redeemer Himself says: Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Ye, then, beloved brethren, who have looked earnestly into your own hearts, and who find in yourselves these good dispositions of penitence and faith which are required by the word of God, with the sincere desire and purpose of forsaking all sin and following after all Christian holiness, approach with me now to the throne of grace, and make your humble confession to almighty God.

All kneeling or standing:

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, Judge of all men, we draw

nigh unto Thee with deep humiliation and heartfelt penitent grief, in view of our manifold sins and great unrighteousness, whereby we have provoked against ourselves most justly thine indignation and wrath. We have sinned against Thee in thought, word and deed. We have broken thy holy laws. We have come short of thy righteousness and glory in all our ways. Our lives bear testimony against us, and our hearts condemn us, as being by nature prone to all evil and backward to all good. We have abused thy mercies and made light of thy judgments. Righteousness belongeth unto Thee, O Lord, and unto us only confusion of face. But unto Thee, O Lord our God, belong also mercies and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Thee. For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive, and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee. Look upon us, therefore, O righteous and holy Father, with an eye of pity and compassion, as we now humble ourselves with sincere confession before the throne of thy heavenly grace; and for the sake of thy Son, Jesus Christ, speak pardon and peace to our souls. Let thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, according as we hope in Thee. And with the full pardon of our past sins, be pleased also to quicken us, we beseech Thee, in the way of righteousness and uphold us with thy free spirit, that we may walk worthy henceforth of the vocation wherewith we are called and ever hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Or, instead of the Confession and the paragraph immediately preceding it, the following Questions and Answers may be used, all standing:

And now, beloved in the Lord, do you sincerely deplore and confess your manifold sins and shortcomings, heartily repent of them and long after the grace and fellowship of Jesus Christ?

Ans. I do.

Do you receive and confess Jesus Christ as the only and all-sufficient Redeemer from sin and death; and, renouncing all self-righteousness, do you rely on Him alone for pardon and salvation?

Ans. I do.

Furthermore, is it your sincere desire and solemn purpose to show forth by your whole life your gratitude to God for the great love wherewith He hath loved you? And, renouncing all envy and enmity, all pride and covetousness, and every other sin, is it also your purpose by the grace of God to walk uprightly before Him, and to glorify Him in your bodies and spirits which are his?

Ans. It is, the Lord helping me.

Then shall the Minister pronounce this Declaration of Comfort:

HEARKEN now unto the comforting assurance of the grace of God, promised by our Lord Jesus Christ unto all that truly repent and believe. As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. God so loved the world that He gave his only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Wherefore, dearly beloved in the Lord, as many of you as have with hearty repentance and true faith turned unto God, may assuredly believe, according to the gospel, that He has

mercy upon you, and that your sins are forgiven, through the perfect satisfaction of the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Then shall be sung a Hymn or Psalm, together with the Doxology, after which the service shall be concluded with this Benediction :

THE God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION.

[The Holy Communion shall be administered publicly in every Congregation at least twice each year, and, if possible, oftener.]

When the Communion is to be administered, the service shall proceed according to the order of the regular service of the Lord's Day until the end of the Sermon. The Minister shall then make all necessary Announcements.

Then shall be collected the Offerings of the people, during which the Minister may read some of the following Sentences from the Holy Scriptures.

HE which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly, and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give, not grudgingly or of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver. As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad, he hath given to the poor, his righteousness remaineth forever.

Charge them that are rich in this world that

they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy, that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate, laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

To do good and to communicate forget not, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord, and that which he hath given will He pay him again.

I have showed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

The Minister shall then reverently uncover and expose to view the Bread and the Wine, and shall say :

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who by the blood of thy dear Son hast consecrated for us a new and living way into the holiest of all, cleanse our minds, we beseech Thee, by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we, thy redeemed people, drawing near unto Thee in this Holy Communion with a true heart and undefiled conscience, in full assurance of faith, may offer unto Thee an acceptable sacrifice in righteousness, and worthily magnify thy great and glorious name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister read, either the whole or some part of the following Selection of Passages from the Holy Scriptures :

SURELY He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows ; yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities ; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray ; we have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only-begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in Me. I am the vine, ye are the branches ; he that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, for without Me ye can do nothing.

I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever, and the bread which I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. The Jews, therefore, strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat ? Then Jesus said unto them. Verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

Whoso eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood

hath eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood dwelleth in Me and I in him. As the living Father hath sent Me and I live by the Father, so he that eateth Me, even he shall live by Me. This is that bread which came down from heaven, not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead, he that eateth of this bread shall live forever.

Then, the Congregation standing, the Minister shall say :

Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, Lord God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God.

Thou didst in the beginning create all things for Thyself. By thy word were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the breath of thy mouth. The armies of the invisible world, angels and archangels, thrones, dominions, principalities and powers, the glorious firmament on high, sun, moon and stars, the earth and the fulness thereof, all are the work of thy hands, and all are upheld by Thee continually in their appointed order and course.

Thou also at the first didst make man in thine own image and after thine own likeness, and didst set him over the works of thy hands, endowing him with the excellent gift of righteousness and

forming him for immortality. And when afterwards, through the fraud and malice of Satan, he fell by transgression from that first estate, Thou didst not leave him still to perish utterly in his fall, but wast pleased to raise him up again and to restore him to the joyful hope of everlasting life, by the promise of redemption through Jesus Christ, who, being God of God, very God of very God, dwelling in the bosom of the Father with unspeakable blessedness from all eternity, at last, when the fulness of the time was come, came down from heaven and became man for us men and for our salvation.

For all thy mercies and favors known to us and unknown we give Thee thanks. But most of all we praise Thee for the gift of thine adorable, true and only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, who by his appearing hath abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. We bless Thee for his incarnation, for his holy life on earth, for his sufferings and death upon the cross, for his resurrection from the dead, and for his glorious ascension to thy right hand. We bless Thee for the giving of the Holy Ghost, for the institution of the Church, for the means of grace, for the hope of everlasting life, and for the glory which shall be brought unto us at the coming and in the kingdom of thy dear Son.

Thee, mighty God, heavenly King, we magnify and praise. With patriarchs and prophets, apostles and martyrs, with the holy Church throughout all the world, with the heavenly Jerusalem, the joyful assembly and congregation of the first-born on high, with the innumerable company of angels round about thy throne, the heaven of heavens,

and all the powers therein, we worship and adore thy glorious name, joining in the song of the cherubim and seraphim :

Here the people may join in the Seraphic Hymn.

HOLY, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Then the Minister shall say :

THE LORD JESUS, THE SAME NIGHT IN WHICH HE WAS BETRAYED [here he shall take some of the bread into his hands], TOOK BREAD; AND WHEN HE HAD GIVEN THANKS, HE BRAKE IT [here he shall break the bread] AND SAID, TAKE, EAT, THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU; THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

AFTER THE SAME MANNER ALSO [here he shall take the cup into his hands] HE TOOK THE CUP, WHEN HE HAD SUPPED, SAYING, THIS CUP IS THE NEW TESTAMENT IN MY BLOOD; THIS DO YE, AS OFTEN AS YE DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, sanctify, we beseech Thee, by thy word and Spirit, these elements of bread and wine, that being set apart now from a common to a sacred and mystical use, they may exhibit and represent to us with true effect the body and blood of thy Son, Jesus Christ, so that in the use of them we may be made through the power of the Holy Ghost, to partake really and truly of his blessed life, whereby only

we can be saved from death and raised to immortality at the last day.

AND be pleased now, O most merciful Father, to accept our sacrifice of thanksgiving and praise, which we here offer unto Thee, in union with this memorial of the blessed sacrifice of thy Son, consecrating ourselves on the altar of the gospel in soul and body, property and life, to thy most blessed service and praise. Look upon us through the mediation of our great High Priest. Make us accepted in the beloved, and let his name be as a pure and holy incense through which all our worship may come up before Thee, as the odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well-pleasing to God.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, we rejoice before Thee in the blessed communion of all thy saints, wherein Thou givest us also to have part. We praise Thee for the holy fellowship of patriarchs and prophets, apostles and martyrs, and the whole glorious company of the redeemed of all ages, who have died in the Lord and now live with Him for evermore. We give thanks unto Thee for thy great grace and many gifts bestowed on those who have thus gone before us in the way of salvation, and by whom we are now compassed about in our Christian course as a cloud of witnesses looking down upon us from the heavenly world. Enable us to follow their faith, that we may enter at death into their joy, and so abide with them in rest and peace, till both they and we shall reach our common consummation of redemption and bliss in the glorious resurrection of the last day. *Amen.*

The Holy Communion.

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Here let the people join aloud in the Lord's Prayer,

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Here the Holy Communion shall take place. While a sacramental Hymn is sung the people shall present themselves at the communion table, reverently and devoutly standing. The officiating Minister shall first receive the Communion in both kinds himself, and then proceed to administer it to the Congregation, distributing first the bread and then the cup.

Giving the bread, the Minister shall say :

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

Giving the cup, the Minister shall say :

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

After the people have communed, the Minister shall pronounce one of the following, or some other suitable Benediction :

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. *Amen.*

Or this :

MAY the Holy Communion of the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, keep and preserve you each one in body, soul and spirit unto everlasting life. *Amen.*

Depart in peace.

When all have communed, the Minister shall offer a free prayer, or one of the following Prayers:

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we give Thee most hearty thanks for the great goodness Thou hast shown toward us at this time, in vouchsafing to feed us, through these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, and heirs through hope of thine everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most blessed death and passion. And we most humbly beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as Thou hast prepared for us to walk in, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen*;

Or this:

BLESS the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases, who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth Thee with loving kindness and tender mercies. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy. He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heaven is above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed

our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him. He that spared not his own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not also with Him freely give us all things? For if, while we were yet enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. Wherefore our hearts and lives shall show forth thy praises, O God, from henceforth and forevermore. *Amen.*

Then shall be sung a suitable thanksgiving Hymn, or the Ambrosian Hymn as follows:

We praise Thee, O God,
We acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father everlasting.
To Thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein.
To Thee cherubim and seraphim continually do cry:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth.
Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.
The glorious company of the apostles praise Thee.
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise Thee.
The noble army of martyrs praise Thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge Thee,
The Father of an infinite majesty,
Thine adorable, true and only Son,
Also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.
Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver man,
Thou didst humble Thyself to be born of a Virgin.

When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of
death, Thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to
all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the
glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.

We therefore pray Thee, help thy servants,
whom Thou hast redeemed with thy precious
blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy saints in
glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people and bless thy heritage.

Govern them and lift them up forever.

Day by day we magnify Thee,

And we worship thy name ever, world without
end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without
sin.

O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us, as our trust
is in Thee.

O Lord, in Thee have I trusted ; let me never be
confounded.

Then shall the Minister pronounce this Benediction :

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ, our Lord ; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

HOLY BAPTISM.

BAPTISM OF INFANTS.

[Children, one or both of whose parents are members of the Church, are entitled to Baptism.

Baptism shall be performed in the church, except for good reason.

Sponsors may be admitted in Baptism; but the parents themselves must be present and answer to the questions in the service.

Members of the Church may present orphan or adopted children for Baptism, assuming the proper vows.

When a shorter form is necessary, the opening and closing Addresses in this Office may be omitted.]

When children are presented for Baptism, pure water having been provided in the font, or some other clean vessel fit and decent for the sacred ordinance, the Minister shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED: Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, after his resurrection and shortly before his ascension to the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, instituted the Holy Sacrament of Baptism, saying to his disciples: All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

Hear also what is written in another place: And they brought young children to Him, that He might touch them; and his disciples rebuked them that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was much

displeased, and said, Suffer the little children to come unto Me and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily, I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And He took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them and blessed them.

Therefore, taking encouragement from these words, and firmly believing that the promise of the new covenant is to our children no less than to ourselves, let us call upon God the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous mercy He may receive *this child*, and through the holy Sacrament of Baptism seal to *him* the remission of sins and the gift of a new and spiritual life, that being washed from *his* sins, and delivered from the power of evil, *he* may be made a member of Christ's holy Church unto eternal salvation.

Here the Congregation shall rise, and continue standing until the Baptism is ended.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who of thy great mercy didst save Noah and his family in the ark by water, and also didst safely lead the children of Israel, thy people, through the Red Sea, figuring thereby thy holy Baptism, and by the Baptism of thy well beloved Son, Jesus Christ, in the river Jordan, didst sanctify water to the mystical washing away of sin, we beseech Thee for thine infinite mercies graciously to look upon *this child*, to wash *him*, and sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost, that *he* may be received into the ark of Christ's Church, and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope and rooted in charity, may so

pass the waves of this troublesome world; that finally *he* may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with Thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the Minister shall address the parents or sponsors as follows :

DEARLY BELOVED: You have brought *this child* here to be baptized; you have prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ would vouchsafe to receive *him*, to release *him* from sin, to sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost, to give *him* the kingdom of heaven and eternal life; you have heard that our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised in his gospel to grant all these things that you have prayed for, which promise He, for his part, will most surely keep and perform. Wherefore after this promise made by Christ, *this child* must also faithfully for *his* part, promise by you that are *his* sureties (until *he* come of age to take it upon *himself*) that *he* will renounce the Devil and all his works, and constantly believe God's holy word, and obediently keep his commandments.

Then shall the Minister address to the parents or sponsors the following questions, to which the answer shall be given audibly by each one.

Dost thou, in the name of this child, renounce the Devil with all his ways and works, the world with its vain pomp and glory, and the flesh with all its sinful desires?

Ans. I do.

Dost thou believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our

Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; descended into hades; the third day rose from the dead; ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from whence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead?

And in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting?

Ans. I believe.

Wilt thou that this child be baptized in this faith?

Ans. I will.

Dost thou promise to bring up this child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and in the doctrines and duties of our holy religion?

Ans. I do.

Then, taking the child on his arm, or leaving it in the arms of the parent or sponsor, the Minister shall say:

Name this child.

Thereupon, pronouncing the name aloud, he shall baptize it with a free application of water, saying:

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then the Minister shall restore the child to the parents or sponsors, and say:

Let us pray.

WE yield Thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased Thee to vouchsafe unto

this child thy holy Baptism. And we humbly beseech Thee to grant that *he*, being dead unto sin and living unto righteousness, and being buried with Christ in his death, may crucify the old man and utterly abolish the whole body of sin; and that as *he is* made *partaker* of the death of thy Son, *he* may also be made *partaker* of his resurrection; so that finally, with the residue of thy holy Church, *he* may be an *inheritor* of thine everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Then the Minister shall address the parents or sponsors as follows:

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD: Forasmuch as you have now dedicated *this child* by Baptism to the service of the triune God, you must remember that it is your duty to train *him* up, by precept and example, in the true knowledge and fear of God according to the articles of the Christian faith and doctrine, as contained in the Old and New Testament, and in the symbols of the Church. Especially is it your duty, so soon as *he* shall be able to learn, to remind him often of *his* baptismal vows and obligations, and in particular to teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed and the Ten Commandments, that *he* may know how to pray,

what to believe and how to live. Finally, you are to see to it, that *he* be brought at the proper time to the Minister, to be instructed in the Catechism, and prepared for confirmation and the Holy Communion, that *he* may heartily renew *his* baptismal vows, renounce in his own name the world, the flesh and the Devil, profess Jesus Christ, and ever honor this profession by a holy life and conversation, to the glory of God and the salvation of *his* soul.

Then shall the Minister pronounce this Benediction :

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your heart and mind through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

BAPTISM OF ADULTS.

[Before adults are baptized the Minister and Elders shall be satisfied that they understand the fundamental truths of the Christian religion and are governed by them in their lives.

Adults should be baptized publicly, either in the church or elsewhere, in the presence of a worshipping assembly. The Minister shall unite the rite of Confirmation with their Baptism, by laying his hands upon them and pronouncing the Benediction, as in the Office of Confirmation.]

When adults present themselves for Baptism, pure water having been provided in a font, or some other clean vessel fit and decent for the sacred ordinance, the Minister shall say :

DEARLY BELOVED : That you may know and rightly understand, from God's holy word, the meaning and importance of the Sacrament of Baptism, hear first what Jesus said to Nicodemus : Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter

into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Hear also the words of the institution of this Sacrament: He said unto his disciples, Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

You see from these words of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, that we are all by nature in a sinful and lost condition, and cannot enter into the kingdom of God except by a new birth of water and of the Spirit, and that there is no salvation without faith in Jesus Christ and a childlike submission to his ordinances. You see, moreover, that the ordinary way of entering into the covenant of grace, according to God's appointment, is the Sacrament of holy Baptism, by which we are divinely assured of the remission of our sins and become partakers of the gift of the Holy Ghost. Hence, also, St. Peter, on the day of Pentecost, after preaching the gospel of Christ's death and resurrection, called upon the hearers, saying: Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost; for the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Then addressing the Congregation, he shall say:

THEREFORE, taking encouragement from these words, let us, as many as are here present, call

upon God, the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous mercy He may receive *this person*, and through the holy Sacrament of Baptism seal to *him* the remission of sins and the gift of a new and spiritual life; that being washed from *his* sins and delivered from the power of the Devil, he may be made a member of Christ's holy Church unto eternal salvation.

Here the Congregation shall rise, and remain standing until the Baptism is ended.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who of thy great mercy didst save Noah and his family in the ark by water, and also didst safely lead the children of Israel, thy people, through the Red Sea, figuring thereby thy holy Baptism, and by the Baptism of thy well beloved Son, Jesus Christ, in the river Jordan didst sanctify water to the mystical washing away of sin, we beseech Thee, for thine infinite mercies, graciously to look upon *this person*, to wash *him*, and sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost, that *he* being delivered from thy wrath may be received into the ark of Christ's Church, and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope and rooted in charity, may so pass the waves of this troublesome world, that finally he may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with Thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the Minister shall address the person or persons to be baptized:

DEARLY BELOVED: You have come hither desiring to receive holy Baptism, you have heard how the congregation hath prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ would vouchsafe to receive you and

bles you, to release you of your sins, to give you the kingdom of heaven and everlasting life. You have heard also that our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised in his holy word to grant all these things which we have prayed for, which promise He for his part will most surely keep and perform. Wherefore, after this promise made by Christ, you must also faithfully for your part in the presence of God and these witnesses promise and answer to the following questions :

Then shall the Minister address to the person or persons to be baptized the following questions, together with such other questions as the Constitution of the Church may require, to which the answer shall be given audibly by each one.

Dost thou renounce the Devil with all his ways and works, the world with its vain pomp and glory, and the flesh with all its sinful desires?

Ans. I do.

Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord ; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary ; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried ; descended into hades ; the third day rose from the dead ; ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty ; from whence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead ?

And in the Holy Ghost ; the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints ; the forgiveness of sins ; the resurrection of the body ; and the life everlasting ?

Ans. I believe.

Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

Ans. I will.

Dost thou promise to follow Christ, and keep his commandments all the days of thy life?

Ans. I do.

Then shall the Minister ask the name of the Candidate, and requiring him to kneel down, shall baptize *him*, saying:

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister lay his hands on the head of the person baptized, and confirm *him*, saying:

THE very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Then the person or persons rising, the Minister shall proceed:

Let us pray.

WE yield Thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased Thee to vouchsafe unto *this person* thy holy Baptism. And we humbly beseech Thee to grant that *he*, being dead unto sin and living unto righteousness and being buried with Christ in his death, may crucify the old man and utterly abolish the whole body of sin; and that as *he is* made *partaker* of the death of thy Son, *he* may also be made *partaker* of his resurrection, so that finally, with the residue of thy holy Church, *he* may be an *inheritor* of thine everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

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OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister pronounce this Benediction :

AND now may the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you; to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. *Amen.*

CONFIRMATION.

[It is the duty of the baptized children of the Church to become Catechumens, as soon as they are old enough to commit to memory the Catechism and to be benefited by the Pastor's instruction. In no case ought their attendance to be delayed beyond their thirteenth year. Their Catechization looks forward to their Confirmation, which forms its solemn completion.

Before Confirmation is administered the Minister and Elders shall be satisfied that the Candidate understands the fundamental truths of the Christian religion, and is governed by them in *his* life.]

After the Sermon or an Address the Minister shall read the names of the Catechumens, who shall then present themselves, whereupon the Minister shall begin thus :

FOLLOWING the example of the holy apostles and those who succeeded them, the Church bestows upon those who have been baptized, either as adults or in their infancy, after they have been properly instructed, the blessing of confirmation, by prayer and the laying on of hands.

The laying on of hands was first practiced as a religious act by devout parents upon their children, whereby they imparted unto them the parental blessing and confirmed them in faith and piety. By the laying on of hands also such as were called to be public ministers in the Church were invested with the authority and grace of the sacred office; and so also by the same solemn act, the apostles of our Lord communicated the gift of the Holy Ghost for the confirmation of believers after their baptism.

Then, addressing the Catechumens, he shall say :

DEARLY BELOVED : As children of your heavenly Father, called to a holy priesthood in the Church,

to offer up spiritual sacrifices to God by Jesus Christ, you are now to receive the solemn rite of confirmation by the laying on of hands, as your full and formal consecration to his holy service.

In this sacred ordinance you on your part renew and ratify the promise and vow made in your Baptism; whilst Christ through his Church claims you publicly for his service, bestows upon you his blessing, confirms you in his covenant, and imparts unto you in larger measure the Holy Ghost, by whose help alone you are able to fulfil your vows by leading holy and obedient lives.

Then shall the Minister address to the Catechumens the following questions, together with such other questions as the Constitution of the Church may require, to which the answer shall be given audibly by each one.

Dost thou now, in the presence of God and of this congregation, renew the solemn promise and vow made in thy name at thy Baptism? Dost thou ratify and confirm the same, and acknowledge thyself bound to believe and to do all those things which thy parents undertook for thee?

Ans. I do.

Dost thou renounce the Devil with all his ways and works, the world with its vain pomp and glory, and the flesh with all its sinful desires.

Ans. I do.

Then the Minister shall say:

Profess now your faith before God and this congregation.

Then, the Congregation standing, the Catechumens led by the Minister shall repeat the Apostles' Creed, as follows:

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Minister shall now say:

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who out of infinite mercy in Christ Jesus hast through holy Baptism received these thy servants into the communion of the Church, strengthen them, we beseech Thee, O Lord, through the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, and daily increase in them the manifold gifts of thy grace, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord, now and forever. *Amen.*

Then, the Congregation still standing, the Catechumens shall kneel, and the Minister, laying his hand on the head of each one successively, shall say:

THE very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Here all kneeling.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, we render Thee thanks for the great mercy Thou hast been pleased to show toward these thy servants, by giving them power this day publicly to own and accept for themselves thy covenant of salvation made with them before in the Sacrament of Baptism, and by confirming unto them at this time the same grace through this holy ordinance of thy Church. And now, O Lord, we beseech Thee to verify and fulfil in them the truth of this glorious covenant unto the end, that as they have been introduced into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and made to have part in its privileges and hopes, they may be constantly kept in the same by the power of the Holy Ghost, through faith unto everlasting life. Fortify them against the assaults of sin and hell. Let not Satan prevail against them. Keep them from the evil that is in the world. Help them to walk in the Spirit, that they may not fulfil the lusts of the flesh. Defend them from all heresy and schism, from all apostasy and unbelief. Let them never draw back to perdition. Make them faithful unto death, that no man may take from them their crown. And grant, O most merciful Father, that, having continued thus steadfast in faith and hope to the end, they may be counted worthy to be joined with thy saints in heaven and to have part with them finally in the resurrection of the dead, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the Minister shall dismiss the Catechumens, saying:

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your heart and mind, through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

MARRIAGE.

At the day and time appointed the persons to be married shall come into the body of the church, or shall be ready in some proper house, with their friends and neighbors; and there standing together, the Man on the right hand and the Woman on the left, the Minister shall say:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

DEARLY BELOVED: We are assembled in the sight of God and his holy angels, to join together this man and this woman in the bonds of matrimony, which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, confirmed by the teaching of our blessed Saviour and compared by St. Paul to the mystical union which subsists between Christ and his Church.

Into this holy estate these two persons are come to be joined. Therefore, if any man can show any just cause why they may not be lawfully joined together, let him now speak or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

And then, addressing the persons to be married, he shall say:

I CHARGE you each and both, as ye will answer before God at the day of judgment, if either of you know any reason why ye may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, confess it now. For be well assured that all those who are brought together contrary to the word of God are not

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joined together of God, neither is their marriage lawful.

If no impediment be alleged, the Minister shall say unto the man :

M., Wilt thou take this woman to be thy wedded wife ?

Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her in sickness and in health, and, forsaking every other, cleave to her only, so long as ye both shall live ?

The man shall answer :

I will.

Then shall the Minister say unto the woman :

N., Wilt thou take this man to be thy wedded husband ?

Wilt thou obey him, love, honor and keep him in sickness and in health, and, forsaking every other, cleave to him only, so long as ye both shall live ?

The woman shall answer :

I will.

When a ring is used the man shall give the ring to the woman, which the Minister taking from her shall deliver again to the man, who shall then place it upon the third finger of the woman's left hand, and holding it there shall say after the Minister :

WITH this ring I thee wed, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then shall the Minister say :

As a seal to this holy vow give each other the right hand.

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Then the Minister, laying his hand upon the joined hands of the pair, shall say :

FORASMUCH as you, *M.* and *N.*, have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, I pronounce you man and wife, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

THOSE whom God hath joined together let not man put asunder.

Let us pray.

O GOD, who by thy mighty power hast made all things of nothing, who also didst appoint that out of man, created after thine own image and similitude, woman should take her beginning, and knitting them together didst teach that it should never be lawful to put asunder those whom Thou by matrimony hadst made one, look mercifully upon these thy servants, that both this man may love his wife, according to thy word (as Christ did love his spouse the Church, who gave Himself for it, loving and cherishing it even as his own flesh), and also that this woman may be loving and faithful to her husband, and in all quietness, sobriety and peace, be a follower of holy and godly matrons. O Lord, bless them both, and grant them to inherit thine everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine

is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Then shall he bless them :

GOD the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. Amen.

After which, if the service be in the church, and there be no sermon declaring the duties of marriage, the Minister may read as follows :

ALL ye that are married, or that intend to take the excellent estate of matrimony upon you, hear what the holy Scripture doth say as touching the duty of husbands towards their wives and wives towards their husbands.

Saint Paul in his Epistle to the Ephesians, the fifth chapter, doth give this commandment to all married men: Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the Church, and gave Himself for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water, by the word; that He might present it to Himself a glorious Church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy, and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh, but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the Church; for we are members of his body, of his flesh and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a

great mystery ; but I speak concerning Christ and the Church. Nevertheless, let every one of you in particular so love his wife, even as himself.

Likewise the same Saint Paul, writing to the Colossians, speaketh thus to all men that are married : Husbands, love your wives and be not bitter against them.

Hear also what Saint Peter, the apostle of Christ, who was himself a married man, saith unto them that are married : Ye husbands, dwell with your wives according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers be not hindered.

Hitherto ye have heard the duty of the husband toward the wife. Now, likewise, ye wives, hear and learn your duties toward your husbands, even as it is plainly set forth in holy Scripture.

Saint Paul, in the aforementioned Epistle to the Ephesians, teaches you thus : Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the Church ; and He is the Saviour of the body. Therefore, as the Church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything. And again he saith : Let the wife see that she reverence her husband.

And in his Epistle to the Colossians, Saint Paul giveth you this short lesson : Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

Saint Peter also doth instruct you very well, thus saying : Ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands ; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the

conversation of the wives, while they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair and of wearing of gold or of putting on of apparel, but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their husbands, even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well and are not afraid with any amazement.

After which the Minister shall close the service with this Benediction :

THE grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. *Amen.*

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION.

ORDINATION OF MINISTERS.

After the sermon the presiding Minister, having taken his place at the altar, shall begin thus :

Let us pray.

MEET us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued and ended in Thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally by thy mercy attain unto everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Here the Candidate for Ordination, his name being distinctly announced, shall be requested to present himself before the altar, whereupon the Minister shall address the Congregation as follows :

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD: Almighty God, whom it hath pleased by his Spirit and word to gather and preserve to Himself continually, out of the whole human race, a Church chosen to everlasting life, hath given to all the members of the same, both ministers and people, a common interest in its welfare. For this reason, it hath ever been the practice, that in the ordination of those who have been called to the office of the holy ministry the people also should have an opportunity to express their voice. Now, therefore, in order that we may be assisted in the case

before us by your knowledge and past observation of him who is here present for admission to this office, we call upon you, to the end that if you know any just cause or impediment, because of which he ought not to be ordained to the Christian ministry, you do come forward in God's name and make it known.

If no objection be offered, after a sufficient pause he shall address the Candidate, and say :

DEARLY BELOVED BROTHER: It is now our part solemnly and for the last time before proceeding to lay upon you irrevocably the burden and responsibility of the holy ministry, to remind you how great is the dignity of the office, and how weighty and momentous also are the duties which it involves.

The office is of divine origin and of truly supernatural character and force, flowing directly from the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, as the fruit of his resurrection and triumphant ascension into heaven, and being designed by Him to carry forward the purposes of his grace upon the earth, in the salvation of men by the Church to the end of time.

All power, we hear Him saying after He had risen from the dead, is given unto Me in heaven and in earth; go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

To this answers in full what is written also by Saint Paul: Wherefore He saith, When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and

gave gifts unto men. Now that He ascended, what is it but that He also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things. And he gave some, apostles, and some, prophets, and some, evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the Son of God unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

Consider well, dear brother in Christ, how much all this means, as declaring and setting forth the true nature and significance of the holy office. The first ministers were the apostles, who were called and commissioned immediately by Jesus Christ Himself. They in turn ordained and set apart other suitable men as pastors and teachers over the churches which they had gathered and established in different places; and these again in the same way appointed and sent forth others to carry onward and forward still the true succession of this office, which, being transmitted from age to age in the Christian Church, has come down finally to our time. The solemnity of ordination, through which this transmission flows, is not merely an impressive ceremony, by which the right of such as are called of God to the ministry is owned and confessed by the Church, but it is to be considered rather as their actual investiture with the authority of the office itself, the sacred seal of their heavenly commission, and a symbolical assurance from on high that their consecration to the service of Christ is accepted, and that the Holy Ghost will

most certainly be with them in the faithful discharge of their official duties.

These duties are of the same order with the high origin of the office and its glorious design. The ministers of Christ are set in the world to be at once the representatives of his authority and the ambassadors of his grace. As my Father hath sent Me, He says, even so send I you. He that heareth you, heareth Me; and he that despiseth you, despiseth Me; and he that despiseth Me, despiseth Him that sent Me. Let a man so account of us, says St. Paul, as of the ministers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Again: We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us. To them it belongs to baptize, to preach the word, to administer the holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. They are appointed to wait upon and serve the Church, which is the spouse of Jesus Christ, his body mystical; to offer before Him the prayers and supplications of his people; to feed, to instruct, to watch over and guide the sheep and lambs of his flock, whom He hath purchased with his own blood. They are charged also with the government of the Church and with the proper use of its discipline, in the way both of censure and absolution, according to that solemn word: I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Such being the character of the office to which you are now called, beloved brother in the Lord, and such the high and arduous nature of its duties, it is easy to see with what seriousness and godly

fear, with what solemn forethought, with what holy caution, you should approach unto it, as you are now doing in the present transaction, and with how great care and study also you ought to apply yourself, that you may appear hereafter to have been worthy of being put into the Christian ministry by being found faithful to its mighty trust. Know, at the same time, that for this you are by no means sufficient of yourself. All proper sufficiency here is from God alone, to whom therefore you should pray earnestly, through the mediation of our only Saviour, Jesus Christ, for the heavenly assistance of the Holy Ghost; that giving yourself wholly to this office, with daily meditation and study of the Scriptures, you may be able to make full proof of your ministry, being nourished up in the words of faith and good doctrine, and showing yourself a pattern to others in piety and godly living. In doing this, thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, you shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

And now, that this congregation of Christ may also understand your views and will in these things, and that you may yourself also the more feel the binding force of what you thus publicly profess and promise, we call upon you to make answer plainly to these following questions, which we now propose to you in the name of God and of his Church.

Do you receive the holy Scriptures as being the true and proper word of God, the ultimate rule and measure of the whole Christian faith?

Ans. I do.

Do you believe in one God, the Father; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of the Father; and in one Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son one God Almighty?

Do you believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, whereby being perfect God He became also perfect Man, suffered for our salvation, descended into hades, rose again from the dead, and now sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead?

And do you believe in one holy catholic Church, in which is given one true Baptism for the remission of sins?

Ans. I do.

Do you receive the confessional system of the Heidelberg Catechism as being in harmony with the Bible and the ancient Christian Creeds?

Ans. I do.

Are you truly persuaded that you are called of God to the office of the holy ministry, and do you desire and expect to receive, through the laying on of our hands, official authority for the sacred office, and trust in the grace and aid of the Holy Spirit that you may rightly discharge the duties of your high calling?

Ans. Such is my persuasion and such my desire and hope.

Do you acknowledge the rightful authority of this Church, from which you are now to receive ordination, as being a true part in the succession of the Church catholic; and do you promise to exer-

cise your ministry in the same with faithful diligence, showing all proper regard for its laws and ordinances, and all suitable obedience to its lawful government in the Lord?

Ans. So I confess and so I promise.

Here the Candidate shall be directed to kneel; the Ministers shall lay their hands severally upon his head, and the presiding Minister shall say:

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the chief Shepherd and Bishop of the Church, and trusting in the power of his grace, we ordain, consecrate and appoint you to the ministry of reconciliation, to proclaim his gospel, to dispense his holy Sacraments, to administer Christian discipline in his Church, and to be wholly set apart as an instrument to his use in the salvation of our fallen race; and to this end may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, rest upon and abide with you always.
Amen.

He shall then rise, when each of the Ministers in turn shall give him the right hand of fellowship, saying:

We give you the right hand of fellowship, to take part with us in this ministry.

Or this:

Our fellowship is with the Father and with the Son and with the Holy Ghost.

When the new Minister is to be installed at the same time as Pastor of the Charge in which he is ordained, the Installation services shall now go forward according to the form provided for that purpose. If there be no installation, the presiding Minister shall here say:

LET us pray, beloved brethren, to God, the Father Almighty, that He may be pleased to

multiply his heavenly gift upon this his servant, whom he hath called to the office of the holy ministry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Then kneeling down :

ALMIGHTY GOD, most merciful Father, who of thine infinite goodness hast given thine only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and the author of everlasting life, who after that He had completed our redemption and was ascended into heaven, poured down his gifts abundantly upon men, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the edifying and perfecting of his body, the Church, send down, we beseech Thee, the anointing of the Holy Ghost upon the head of this thy servant, who has now been set apart in thy name, through the solemn act of ordination, to the office of teacher and ruler in Christ's Church. Grant unto him, O most merciful Father, such fulness of thy grace, that he may be a faithful and wise steward whom Thou settest over thy household, using the authority Thou givest him, not unto destruction, but unto salvation; that he may be an able minister of the new testament, knowing how he ought to behave himself in the house of God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth; that he may be a true preacher of righteousness, a faithful leader of the blind and of them that are out of the way, a light unto those who are in darkness, a watchful guardian over thy fold, and a follower of the true Shepherd who giveth his life for the sheep. Make his feet beautiful to publish the gospel of peace, and to bring glad tidings of good things. Give him power

to preach not himself, but Christ Jesus, the Lord, and himself the servant of all for Jesus' sake. May he be an example of the believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. So may he in all things fulfil his ministry unblamably and unreprovably in thy sight, that he may be prepared to stand without shame before the judgment-seat of Christ, and thus, finishing his course with joy, be received unto glory and immortality in thine eternal kingdom, where they that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars forever and ever. Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Congregation shall then rise and join in singing a Doxology; after which the whole service shall be concluded with this Benediction:

THE God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. *Amen.*

INSTALLATION OF AN ORDAINED MINISTER IN A PARTICULAR CHARGE.

Immediately after the ordination of the new Minister, if this take place on the same occasion, or in any other case after the sermon, the presiding Minister, having taken his place at the altar, shall address the congregation as follows:

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD: You have called *N.N.*, now present, an ordained minister (or,

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who has now been ordained a minister) to become your pastor. He has consented to accept the call. After full inquiry and deliberation, the Classis of *M.*, under whose supervision and care you stand, has resolved that the proposed settlement ought to take place; and being here accordingly by its appointment and order at the present time for that purpose, we now proceed to institute and install him, in the name of the Lord, as the pastor of this charge.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, by whose holy inspiration and guidance thine apostles, in the first days of thy Church did, for the fulfilling of their charge, ordain others also, who under them might take part in the care and government of thy flock, grant, we beseech Thee, that all those who are placed by thine authority over the several congregations of thy people may be endowed with thy heavenly grace, and may so faithfully serve Thee in their office and administration, and watch over the souls under their charge, that, at the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, they may present the people committed to their care a holy and glorious flock, giving an account of them with joy and not with grief, through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and abideth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Then shall he read either the whole or some part of the following passages of Scripture.

VERILY, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him, for they know not the voice of strangers. This parable spake Jesus unto them, but they understood not what things they were which He spake unto them. Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door; by Me if any man enter in he shall be saved, and shall go in and out and find pasture. The thief cometh not but for to steal and to kill and to destroy; I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is a hireling and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep and fleeth, and the wolf catcheth them and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth Me, even so know I the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me more than these? He saith unto

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Him, Yea, Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me? He saith unto Him, Yea, Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me? Peter was grieved because He said unto him the third time, Lovest thou Me? And he said unto Him, Lord, Thou knowest all things, Thou knowest that I love Thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, apt to teach; not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity (for if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?); not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the Devil. Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the Devil.

And from Miletus Paul sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears and temptations which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews; and how I kept

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back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you and have taught you publicly and from house to house, testifying both to the Jews and also to the Greeks repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there, save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things, give thyself wholly to them, that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself and unto the doctrine; continue in them, for in doing this thou shalt save both thyself and them that hear thee.

The elders which are among you I exhort, who

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am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed; feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind, neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God, whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation, Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and to-day and forever.

Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief, for that is unprofitable for you.

The Congregation shall now rise, and the Pastor-elect having presented himself before the altar, the presiding Minister shall address him thus:

And now, beloved brother in Christ, in full view of the great solemnity of the trust as it is thus set forth by the lively oracles of God, are you willing and ready to take upon yourself the charge of this flock?

Ans. I am, God being my helper.

Do you promise and engage on your part that

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being set as pastor of this people, you will endeavor faithfully to discharge among them all the duties of your ministry, exercising the authority you hold as a true commission from our Lord Jesus Christ with becoming recollection of his presence, according to his commandments, and in due subjection to the rule that is over you in this Church?

Ans. I promise so to do, with God's help.

Then addressing the church and Congregation, he shall say:

DEARLY BELOVED: Ye have heard the solemn vows and engagements now taken by him whom you have called to be your pastor; now, then, we demand of you, do ye on your part receive him in this character and office, promising to show towards him such love, honor and fit obedience in the Lord as are due to an overseer and guide placed over you by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, the chief Shepherd and Bishop of souls?

Ans. We do.

ON the ground of this mutual enagement we do now, by the authority which has been delegated to us for that purpose, solemnly install you, *N. N.*, as pastor of this people, committing them by this act as a part of Christ's flock to your spiritual oversight and care. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then addressing the Congregation, the presiding Minister shall say:

LET us pray, beloved brethren, to the triune God, the fountain of all grace and glory, that He may be pleased to sanctify with his heavenly blessing the pastoral relation which has now been formed in his name.

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Then kneeling down :

ALMIGHTY GOD, most merciful Father, who of thine infinite goodness hast given thine only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and the author of everlasting life, who after that He had completed our redemption and was ascended into heaven, poured down his gifts abundantly upon men, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and some teachers, for the edifying and perfecting of the Church, send down, we beseech Thee, the Holy Ghost upon thy servant, whom Thou hast been pleased now to set over this people in the office of bishop and pastor, and so replenish him with the truth of thy doctrine and endue him with innocency of life, that he may faithfully serve before Thee, to the glory of thy great name and the benefit of thy holy Church, through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate.

O HOLY Jesus, who hast purchased to Thyself a universal Church, and hast promised to be with her ministers to the end of the world, be graciously pleased to bless the ministry and service of him who is now appointed to offer the sacrifices of prayer and praise to Thee in this house, which is called by thy name. May the words of his mouth and the meditation of his heart be always acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer.

AND Thou, O God the Holy Ghost, sanctifier of the faithful, visit, we pray Thee, this congregation with thy love and favor; enlighten their minds more and more with the light of the everlasting gospel; graft in their hearts a love of the

truth; increase in them true religion; nourish them with all goodness; and of thy great mercy keep them in the same, O blessed Spirit, whom with the Father and the Son together we worship and glorify as one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Here the Officers of the Charge may give the Pastor installed the right hand of fellowship.

Then the Congregation shall join in singing a Doxology, after which the whole service shall be concluded with this Benediction:

THE God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. *Amen.*

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS.

[When the Officers of a Congregation have been elected, their names shall be publicly announced, and a time appointed for their Ordination and Installation.

When Elders only are to be set in office without Deacons, or Deacons only without Elders, such parts merely of the following form are to be used as relate to that particular case. So also, if the case calls for Installation only, all the persons elected to office having been previously ordained, there must be a like omission of what forms the Ordination act.]

After the Sermon the Minister having taken his place shall say:

Let us pray.

MEET us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual

help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in Thee we may glorify thy holy name, and finally by thy mercy attain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Here the persons to be set in office, their names being distinctly announced, shall be requested to present themselves, whereupon the Minister shall address the Congregation as follows :

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD: These persons have been solemnly chosen and called by you, as a Christian congregation, to take part as elders and deacons in the care and service of this church. They have accepted your call. No one has come forward to urge any just objection to their being set in office. I therefore proceed in the name of the Lord to ordain such of them as have not been ordained to the same degree before, and to set all of them apart, each in his own office, to the work of the ministry among you and in your behalf.

Then addressing the Candidates he shall say :

BRETHREN: You are here in the presence of God and this congregation to be solemnly ordained and installed as elders and deacons. As it is a great honor to bear office in the Lord's house, so it is also a solemn trust which no one should take upon himself rashly or lightly. For although your election has been by the free choice of your fellow members, yet the offices to which you have been called are not of human origin or authority, but were instituted by Christ Himself, who first called men, through the apostles, to fill them and has so preserved them in the Church to the present time. You are, therefore, not to regard yourselves as the mere servants of men, but as the ser-

vants of Christ, appointed in his name and by his authority to do the work intrusted to your care. From this you may see how much is comprehended in your present ordination and induction into office, and how needful it is that you should magnify your office, and make high account of its duties as a service to be rendered unto God, and not simply to men.

ELDERS are appointed to assist and support the ministers of the word in the general government of the Church. They form, with the minister, in each particular ecclesiastical charge, a council in common for the spiritual supervision of the flock which is committed to their care. They are bound to take part, accordingly, in the work of the ministry, so far as it has to do with this pastoral oversight and rule. They are to be the advisers and counsellors of the minister in his episcopal trust; they are to be to him as hands and eyes, acting with him and for him throughout the congregation. It is their province to go before the flock in the way of Christian example, to watch over it in the Lord, to take an active interest in its spiritual welfare, to feel a responsibility for its condition, to be at hand in all circumstances with spiritual aid for its necessities and wants. It belongs to them, in virtue of their office, to visit the sick and the afflicted, to instruct the ignorant, to admonish such as are out of the way, to warn the unruly, to command and rebuke with authority in Christ's name. To them, moreover, in conjunction with the pastor, belongs the whole discipline of the Church, its power of the keys, as exercised both in the form of censure and in the form of absolution.

THE office of DEACONS has regard especially to the wants of the poor. On them falls the honorable charge of looking after the desolate and needy, and of seeing that the charities of the Church are applied with proper effect to their daily wants. To them it belongs also to help the pastor in those other church ministrations which are directed immediately towards the more outward needs of the general household of faith, and to provide for his proper support, that he may give himself wholly to the work of the ministry. In discharging these duties they must, however, not lose sight of the true spiritual character of their office, which, although it may be thus occupied with outward and temporal things, yet remains always a proper branch of the Christian ministry, the last scope and purpose of which in all things can only be the eternal salvation of men in the world to come. Hence it is that so much stress is laid in the New Testament on the character and life of those who are called to take part in this work. They must be men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, who may be able, both by word and example, to help forward the great purpose of the gospel, making their ministrations to the bodily necessities of the poor the occasion and means of a still better benefit to their souls. St. Paul, writing on this subject, in his first Epistle to Timothy, requires of them expressly virtues and merits of like sort with those which are needful for the office of the ministry in its most exalted character.

And now, brethren, having well considered the nature and design of these sacred offices, to the use of which you have been called respectively by

the voice of this congregation, do you accept the call as coming to you from God, and are you willing to undertake the work and service it sets before you, in the name and for the glory of our common Lord and Master, Jesus Christ?

Ans. I am.

Do you receive the Holy Scriptures as being the inspired word of God, and do you own the doctrines of the Heidelberg Catechism as being in harmony with the Scriptures?

Ans. I do.

Do you promise to exercise your ministry, as *elders* or *deacons*, among this people with faithful diligence according to what you have now declared to be the rule and measure of your faith, showing all proper regard for the lawful authority of the Church, and taking heed to your own lives, that you may adorn the gospel of God our Saviour by a walk and conversation answerable to the place you occupy in Christ's house?

Ans. I so promise, trusting in God's help.

Here those who have not been previously ordained to the office in which they are now called to serve shall be directed to kneel, whereupon the Minister shall proceed to ordain them, laying his right hand upon each one in succession and saying:

TAKE thou authority to execute the office of elder [or deacon] in the Church of God, which office I now solemnly commit unto thee, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Then shall they rise, after which the Minister shall go on immediately to install, or clothe with actual charge in the Congregation, all who are before him for this purpose, both those now ordained and any who may have been ordained before, making use of the following form:

IN the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the authority belonging to me in his Church, I now install you as *elders* and *deacons* in the charge and service to which you have been called by this congregation; and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, rest upon you, abide with you, and strengthen you in your ministry always with all might through the Spirit unto every good word and work. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, our heavenly Father, who hast been pleased of thy great goodness to call *these* thy *servants* to office and power in thy Church, send down upon *them*, we beseech Thee, the Holy Ghost, by whose most blessed inspiration alone *they* can be made able to fulfil the ministry now committed unto *them* and to use rightly therein the gift of thy manifold grace. Let every fruit of the Spirit appear and abound in *them*, to the ornament of the gospel and the glory of thy great name. Make *them* wise and faithful, humble, tender, meek, and yet bold, constant, patient and persevering in their appointed work. In all *their* walk and conversation may thy precepts shine forth, that, holding the testimony of a good conscience, *they* may abide in Christ firm and steadfast, and show forth a good example unto all thy flock. So may *they* purchase to *themselves* a good degree and great boldness in the faith,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Congregation shall now join in singing a Doxology, after which the whole service shall be concluded with this Benediction :

THE God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. *Amen.*

VISITATION AND COMMUNION OF THE SICK.

VISITATION OF THE SICK.

When any one is sick, notice thereof shall be given to the Minister, or, if any circumstance prevent his attendance, to one of the Elders of the Church, who, coming to the sick person, shall carefully inquire into his spiritual state.

[If the sick person be not baptized, he shall be immediately instructed as to his duty in this respect, and urged to become obedient to the faith and enter into covenant with God. To this end the following Scripture passages shall be read and explained to him: Matt. 28: 18-20; Mark 16: 16; John 8: 5; Acts 2: 38-41; Rom. 6: 8-12; Gal. 3: 27; Col. 2: 12; Titus 3: 5; 1 Peter 3: 21. If the sick person give evidence of true repentance and faith, the Minister shall baptize him in the presence of one or more Elders of the Church.]

When the necessary examination has been made and the proper instructions and exhortations have been given, the Minister or Elder may say:

DEARLY BELOVED: Be fully persuaded that almighty God is the Lord of life and of death, and that all his creatures are so in his hands that without his will they cannot so much as move. Wherefore, know certainly that this is God's visitation, coming not by chance, but by his fatherly hand. Know also that He will make whatever afflictions He sends upon us in this vale of tears, if they be received in the right spirit and used in the right way, turn out to our advantage, for He is able to do it, being almighty God, and willing also, being a faithful Father.

That your present afflictions may be sanctified to you, humble yourself with continual repentance for all your sins under the mighty hand of God. Acknowledge his faithfulness and love, and endeavor to bear your sickness with true Christian patience, trusting in his mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Resign yourself wholly to his will, while you look and wait for his salvation, either in your restoration to health or in your translation to the joys of heaven.

That you may be further instructed in regard to God's will concerning you in your sickness, and receive such encouragement and consolation as you need, listen to those things which are written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

Here shall be read or repeated some suitable portions of Holy Scripture. The following are given for direction and help:

I.

AFFLICTION cometh not forth of the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of the ground.

Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth; therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty, for He maketh sore and bindeth up, He woundeth and his hands make whole. He shall deliver thee in six troubles, yea, in seven there shall no evil touch thee.

Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

I will bring them through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them; I will say, It is my people, and they shall say, The Lord is my God.

Ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children: My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him, for whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards and not sons. Furthermore, we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence; shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruits of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees.

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

II.

BEFORE I was afflicted I went astray, but now have I kept thy word. Thou art good and doest good; teach me thy statutes. It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I might learn thy statutes. I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are right, and that Thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me. Let, I pray Thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy

servant. Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live, for thy law is my delight.

We glory in tribulations also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience, and patience experience, and experience hope and hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

We are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

III.

THE Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul, He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

For we know that if our earthly house of this tab-

ernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven, if so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened, not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now He that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that whilst we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord (for we walk by faith, not by sight), we are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. Wherefore we labor that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of Him.

IV.

FOR me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. What I shall choose I wot not. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart and to be with Christ, which is far better.

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day, and not to me only but unto all them also that love his appearing. And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom, to whom be glory forever and ever.

V.

THOUGH I walk in the midst of trouble, Thou wilt revive me.

O God, who is like unto Thee? Thou, which hast showed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favor is life; weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

For the Lord will not cast off forever; but though He cause grief, yet will He have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. For He doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.

For a small moment have I forsaken Thee, but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment, but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord, thy Redeemer. For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.

Then the Minister or Elder shall pray with and for the sick person. The Apostles' Creed may be used, together with one of the following prayers and the Lord's Prayer.

A General Prayer for the Sick.

O LORD GOD, in whose hand is the soul of every living thing and the breath of all mankind, regard with tender compassion this thy servant, whom it hath pleased Thee to visit with bodily affliction and disease. Be graciously near *him* in

the hour of *his* need. Grant unto *him*, we beseech Thee, true repentance for all *his* sins, a firm and steady trust in the merits of thy Son, Jesus Christ, and grace to be in perfect charity with all men. Enable *him* to cast all *his* cares upon Thee, and to yield *himself* with childlike submission to thy righteous will.

God of all power and grace, bless, we entreat Thee, the means used for *his* recovery, rebuke the violence of disease and raise *him* up from *his* bed of pain, that being delivered by thy compassion *he* may walk before Thee in newness of life. But if, O most wise and merciful Father, this sickness should be unto death, grant *him*, we humbly implore Thee, a comfortable release from all *his* sufferings. Let the arms of thine everlasting love be around *him*, and, when flesh and heart shall fail, be Thou the strength of *his* heart and *his* portion forevermore, through the mediation and merits of thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for a Sick Person not prepared for Death.

MOST merciful Saviour, who, when hanging on the cross, didst grant repentance and faith to the dying thief, and hast assured us in thy holy word that Thou desirest not the death of the sinner, but that whosoever cometh unto Thee Thou wilt in no wise cast out, look down, we beseech Thee, in tender compassion upon *him* who now looks up to Thee from *his* bed of suffering and distress. Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon *him*. Hear *his* prayer and wash *him* from *his* sins in thy most precious blood. Give *him* strength against all *his* temptations and heal the maladies of *his* soul. Break not the

bruised reed nor quench the smoking flax. Shut not up thy tender mercies in displeasure, but make *him* to hear of joy and gladness, that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice. Deliver *him* from fear of the enemy, and lift up the light of thy countenance upon *him* and give *him* peace.

Hear us, merciful Saviour, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer for a Sick Child.

O ALMIGHTY GOD and merciful Father, to whom alone belong the issues of life and death, look down from heaven, we humbly beseech Thee, with the eyes of mercy upon this child, now lying upon the bed of sickness. Visit *him*, O Lord, with thy salvation, deliver *him* in thy good appointed time from *his* bodily pain and save *his* soul for thy mercies' sake, that, if it shall be thy pleasure to prolong *his* days here on earth, *he* may live to Thee and be an instrument of thy glory, by serving Thee faithfully and doing good in *his* generation; or else receive *him* into those heavenly habitations, where the souls of those who sleep in the Lord Jesus enjoy perpetual rest and felicity. Grant this, O Lord, for thy mercies' sake, in the name of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Prayer for a Departing Soul.

ALMIGHTY GOD, with whom do live the spirits of just men made perfect, we humbly commend our departing *brother*, into thy hands, as into the

hands of a faithful Creator and most merciful Saviour, beseeching Thee that *his* soul may be precious in thy sight. Wash *him*, we pray Thee, in the blood of that immaculate Lamb that was slain to take away the sins of the world, that whatsoever defilements *he* may have contracted in the midst of this miserable and wicked world, through the lusts of the flesh or the wiles of Satan, being purged and done away, *he* may be presented pure and without spot before Thee. Vouchsafe to *him* a quiet passage, and guide *him* through the valley of the shadow of death. Place *him* in the habitations of light and peace, in the company of thy saints and faithful people who are gone before; and in the resurrection of the just do Thou make *him* partaker of the heavenly inheritance, there to reign with thy holy apostles, with the goodly company of prophets and martyrs, and with all thy saints in glory and blessedness forever and ever. *Amen.*

Litany for the Dying.

O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, have mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord, our offenses nor the offenses of our forefathers. Spare us, good Lord, spare

thy servant before Thee, whom Thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Spare *him*, good Lord.

From all evil and harm, from the power of sin and the snares of the Devil, from thy wrath and from everlasting damnation,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

By the mystery of thy holy incarnation, by thine agony and bloody sweat, by thy cross and passion, by thy precious death and burial, by thy glorious resurrection and ascension, and by the coming of the Holy Ghost, in the hour of death and in the day of judgment,

Good Lord, deliver *him*.

We sinners do beseech Thee to hear us.

Son of God, we beseech Thee to hear us.

That it may please Thee to uphold *him* with Thy free Spirit, to grant *him* true repentance, to forgive *him* all *his* sins, to strengthen and confirm *him* in thy grace, and to beat down Satan under *his* feet,

We beseech Thee to hear us, O Lord.

O Son of God, Redeemer of the world,

Hear us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,

Have mercy upon *him*.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,

Grant *him* thy peace.

O LORD God, our heavenly Father, who hast no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live, we heartily beseech Thee to regard this sick person with an eye of compassion; suffer *him* not to be overwhelmed by any pains of body or any anguish of soul; but grant unto *him* in this world thy pardon and peace, and in the world to come life everlasting, through the abounding merits and the glorious mediation of Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

COMMUNION OF THE SICK.

[If any member of the Church through sickness or infirmity, be not able to come to the house of God, and yet is anxious to receive the Communion, it may be administered to him privately, in which case timely notice thereof must be given to the Minister. One other person at least should commune with the sick; and one or more of the Elders ought to be present.

The Sacrament may also be administered to sick persons who have not been communicants, provided they have proper views of its nature, right dispositions of heart, and are first baptized and confirmed.]

The elements having been placed on a decently covered table, the Minister shall say :

GRACE be unto you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

DEARLY BELOVED IN THE LORD : Forasmuch as in the providence of God you are deprived of the privilege of receiving the Holy Communion in the church, and your heart nevertheless longs for the enjoyment of this blessing and grace, be encouraged and comforted by the words of the Lord Jesus : Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

That you may not partake unworthily of this holy Sacrament, consider well and lay rightly to

heart the exhortation and warning of the apostle Paul: Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup; for he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

Hear also how Saint John encourages those who are truly penitent, saying: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

And again it is written: If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Then the Minister and all present shall kneel, and repeat the following Confession:

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, our heavenly Father, we draw nigh to Thee under a deep sense of our unworthiness and guilt. We have grievously sinned against Thee in thought, in word and in deed. We have come short of thy glory. We have broken thy commandments, and turned aside every one of us from the way of life, and in ourselves there is no soundness nor health. Yet now, O most merciful Father, hear us when we call upon Thee with penitent hearts, and for the sake of thy Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us. Pardon our sins and grant us thy peace. Take away our guilt. Purify us by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit from all inward uncleanness, and make us able and willing to serve Thee in newness of life, to the glory of thy holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the Minister shall say :

ALMIGHTY GOD, who desireth not the death of the sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, and who gave his only Son, Jesus Christ, as a sacrifice and propitiation for the sins of the whole world, have mercy upon you, pardon you, and deliver you from all your sins, establish you in his grace, grant unto you his Holy Spirit, and bring you to life everlasting, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Then, all standing, the Minister shall proceed as follows (the Creed may, however, be omitted):

I BELIEVE in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth :

And in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the

kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.

Here, if desirable, a Hymn or Psalm may be sung.

If the elements have already been consecrated in the church, the Minister shall proceed thus:

THE Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat, this is my body, which is broken for you. This do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood. This do ye as oft as ye drink it in remembrance of Me.

[If the elements have not been consecrated in the church, the Minister shall consecrate in manner and form as follows:]

THE LORD JESUS, THE SAME NIGHT IN WHICH HE WAS BETRAYED [here he shall take some of the bread into his hands], TOOK BREAD; AND WHEN HE HAD GIVEN THANKS HE BRAKE IT [here he shall break the bread] AND SAID, TAKE, EAT, THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU; THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

AFTER THE SAME MANNER ALSO [here he shall take the cup into his hands] HE TOOK THE CUP, WHEN HE HAD SUPPED, SAYING, THIS CUP IS THE NEW TESTAMENT IN MY BLOOD; THIS DO YE AS OFT AS YE DRINK IT IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, sanctify, we beseech Thee, by thy word and Spirit, these elements of bread and wine, that, being set apart

now from a common to a sacred and mystical use, they may exhibit and represent to us with true effect the body and blood of thy Son, Jesus Christ, so that in the use of them we may be made, through the power of the Holy Ghost, to partake really and truly of his blessed life, whereby only we can be saved from death and raised to immortality at the last day. *Amen.*

In administering the elements the Minister shall give first to those who communicate with the sick and then to the sick person.

Giving the bread the Minister shall say :

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

Giving the cup the Minister shall say :

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

When all have communed the Minister shall say :

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we give Thee most hearty thanks for the great goodness Thou hast shown toward us at this time, in vouchsafing to feed us, through these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, and heirs through hope of thine everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most blessed death and passion. And we most humbly beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with Thee and

the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory world without end. *Amen.*

Or this :

BLESS the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases, who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy. He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heaven is above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear Him. He that spared not his own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not also with Him freely give us all things? For if, while we were yet enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. Wherefore our hearts and lives shall show forth thy praises, O God, from henceforth and forevermore. *Amen.*

The Minister shall close the service with this Benediction :

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord ; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

THE BURIAL OF MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH.

When the service is held in the church, or at the house, the Minister shall begin by repeating the following or some other suitable Scriptural Passages :

I AM the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die.

None of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord, and whether we die, we die unto the Lord; whether we live therefore or die we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ both died and rose and revived, that He might be Lord both of the dead and living.

And now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first-fruits of them that slept.

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Then may be sung a suitable Hymn, or the following Psalm may be used :

LORD, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God.

Thou turnest man to destruction, and sayest,
Return, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as
yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the
night.

Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they
are as a sleep; in the morning they are like grass
which groweth up.

In the morning it flourisheth and groweth up, in
the evening it is cut down and withereth.

For we are consumed by thine anger, and by
thy wrath are we troubled.

Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee, our
secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

For all our days are passed away in thy wrath;
we spend our years as a tale that is told.

The days of our years are threescore years and
ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore
years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow, for it
is soon cut off and we fly away.

Who knoweth the power of thine anger? Even
according to thy fear so is thy wrath.

So teach us to number our days, that we may
apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Here the following (I Cor. 15: 20-58) or some other suit-
able Scripture shall be read:

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become
the first fruits of them that slept. For since by
man came death, by man came also the resurrec-
tion of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so
in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man
in his own order, Christ the first-fruits, afterward
they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh
the end, when He shall have delivered up the
kingdom to God, even the Father, when He shall

have put down all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till He hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For He hath put all things under his feet. But when He saith, All things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted which did put all things under Him. And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? Why are they then baptized for the dead?

And why we stand in jeopardy every hour? I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus, our Lord, I die daily. If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die. Be not deceived, evil communications corrupt good manners. Awake to righteousness and sin not, for some have not the knowledge of God; I speak this to your shame.

But some man will say, How are the dead raised up, and with what body do they come? Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened except it die; and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat or some other grain; but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased Him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies and bodies terrestrial; but the glory of the celestial is

one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars, for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body; and so it is written, The first man, Adam, was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural, and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy; and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

Behold, I show you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is

thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Then the Minister shall say :

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, with whom do live the spirits of those who depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the burden of the flesh, are in joy and felicity, we give Thee hearty thanks for the good examples of all those thy servants, who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors. And we beseech Thee, that we, with all those who are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thine eternal and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

O THOU ever-blessed Mediator, who wast dead, but livest forever, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, and who hast knit all thy saints in one communion unto life eternal in that mystical body of which Thou art the glorious and ever-living Head, grant us grace so to follow thy blessed saints, who have gone before us, in the faith and fellowship of thy holy Church, that we may come to those unspeakable joys which Thou hast prepared for all that love Thee from the foundation of the world.

O HOLY and ever-blessed Spirit, who art one with the Father and the Son, and who dwellest in all thy saints to comfort and quicken them, comfort us, we beseech Thee, in the prospect of death, with the hope of the resurrection of the just, and abide in us, that these mortal bodies may be quickened and fashioned like unto our Saviour's glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself.

O HOLY and adorable Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier of our bodies and souls, we humbly confess our sins, and acknowledge them as the cause of our misery and death, and that on account of our sins Thou art justly displeased. Yet, through infinite mercy in Jesus Christ, we implore Thee, blot out our transgressions, wash us from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

THOU knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayer, but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, Thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour, for any pains of death, to fall from Thee. But keep us in everlasting fellowship with the Church triumphant, and let us rest together in thy presence from our labors, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Here may follow a short Sermon or Exhortation, after which the Minister shall say :

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the support of the weary, who dost not willingly grieve or afflict the children of men, look down in tender love and pity, we beseech Thee, upon thy servants, the bereaved household, whose joy is turned into mourning; and according to the multitude of thy mercies be pleased to uphold, strengthen and comfort them, that they may not faint under thy fatherly chastening, but find in Thee their strength and refuge, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

After which the funeral shall proceed to the grave.

At the grave, when the coffin has been let down, the Minister shall say:

IN the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

I KNOW that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God, whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another.

I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so

them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.

The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who by the death of thy Son, Jesus Christ, hast destroyed death, by his rest in the tomb hast sanctified the graves of the saints, and by his glorious resurrection hast brought life and immortality to light, so that all who die in Him abide in hope as to their bodies and in joy as to their souls, receive, we beseech Thee, our unfeigned thanks for that victory over death and the grave which He has obtained for us and for all who sleep in Him; and keep us who are still in the body in everlasting fellowship with all that wait for Thee on earth and with all that are around Thee in heaven, in union with Him who is the resurrection and the life, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

FORASMUCH as it hath pleased almighty God, in his wise providence, to take out of this world the soul of our deceased *brother*, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

I HEARD a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

The Burial of Children. 107

After which the Minister shall close the service with the apostolic Benediction :

THE grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. *Amen.*

THE BURIAL OF CHILDREN.

To be used at the grave.

MAN that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not.

Jesus saith, Suffer the little children to come unto Me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child he shall not enter therein.

Weep not, saith the Lord, the child is not dead, but sleepeth. If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who by the death of thy Son, Jesus Christ, hast destroyed death, by his rest in the tomb hast sanctified the graves of the saints, and by his glorious resurrection hast brought life and immortality to light, so that all who die in Him abide in hope as to their bodies and in joy as to their souls, receive, we beseech Thee, our unfeigned thanks for that victory over death and the grave which He has obtained for us and for all who sleep in Him; and keep us who are still in the

body in everlasting fellowship with all that wait for Thee on earth and with all that are around Thee in heaven in union with Him who is the resurrection and the life, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

FORASMUCH as it hath pleased almighty God in his wise providence to take out of this world the soul of this deceased child, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, looking for the general resurrection in the last day and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*

After which the Minister shall close the service with the apostolic Benediction.

THE grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. *Amen.*

A BURIAL SERVICE.

To be used at the grave:

MAN that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not.

All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. In the morning it flourisheth and groweth up, in the evening it is cut down and withereth. We are strangers before Thee and sojourners, as were all our fathers; our days on earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away.

In the midst of life we are in death; of whom

may we seek for succor, but of Thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers; but spare us Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, Thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from Thee.

The hour is coming in which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice and come forth. Until that day of the glorious revelation of the great God and our Saviour, we commit this body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.
Amen.

The Minister shall close the service with the apostolic Benediction.

THE grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. *Amen.*

PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILY.

Family worship should be observed daily in every household, when the following prayers may be used in connection with the reading of a portion of Scripture. It is recommended that the Scriptures be read as indicated in the "Order of Daily Scripture Readings."

Sunday Morning.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the rest of the past night and for the light of this holy day. Lift upon us, we beseech Thee, the light of thy countenance and be gracious unto us. We are not worthy of the least of thy favors, for we have sinned against Thee in thought, word and deed. We pray for pardon through the infinite merits of our Lord and Saviour. Cleanse us from all our guilt, and give us the spirit of adoption whereby we may call Thee, Abba, Father.

Help us on this day of sacred rest to lift up our hearts unto Thee, who art the source of all light and life. As Thou hast given us to have part in the resurrection of our Lord, help us to seek those things that are above. Deliver us from the spirit of worldliness, and suffer us not to seek our portion in this life. Fill our hearts with love to Thee and charity towards our fellowmen. Prepare us by thy Holy Spirit for the worship of the sanctuary, and enable us to join with thy people in offering to Thee a sacrifice of thanksgiving and praise. Bless us as a family now gathered around the mercy-seat. Bind us together in the spirit of love, and strengthen

us to perform our duties faithfully to Thee and to one another. Make us patient under all our trials. Guide us in the narrow way that leadeth unto everlasting life, and bring us at last into thy heavenly kingdom to dwell with Thee forevermore.

Let thy blessing rest this day upon thy Church throughout the world. Regard in special mercy all who meet in thy holy courts. Manifest Thyself unto thy people as Thou dost not unto the world. Give unto them peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. Draw unto Thee, through the preaching of thy word, those who are still out of the ark of safety, and may many be born into the kingdom of thy dear Son, our Lord. Incline the hearts of men everywhere to receive thy holy word. Send forth thy light and thy truth to the ends of the earth. Bless the ministration of all missionaries in the destitute portions of this land and in heathen lands, and bring in the joyous time when all nations and kindreds and tongues shall come into thy fold.

O Thou merciful and gracious God, whose tender mercies are over all thy works, remember the children of affliction and sorrow. Support the needy and oppressed, protect and cheer the destitute widow and orphan, restore the sick, prepare the dying for death, sanctify the merciful chastisements of thy hand to all who are enduring them, and cause that their afflictions may promote their spiritual and eternal good.

We pray for our kindred and friends, that Thou wouldst mercifully watch over them, keep them from evil, lead them in the way of righteousness and prepare them for an inheritance in thy heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, our heavenly Father, in these our humble petitions, and grant unto us all things that we need, for body and soul, for time and eternity, for the sake of our Lord and Saviour, who has taught us to pray :

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Sunday Evening.

MOST merciful and gracious God, we come into thy presence through the mediation of our great High Priest, and in his name offer unto Thee our evening tribute of thanksgiving and praise. We thank Thee for all thy favors and blessings bestowed upon us and upon all men. Especially do we thank Thee for the blessings we have received from thy hand during this holy day. Thou hast not only supplied our bodily wants, but Thou hast given unto us the bread of life. We thank Thee for the glorious gospel of thy dear Son which we have heard, and for the precious hopes with which Thou hast inspired us through thy holy word. Help us to look unto Jesus Christ as our only Saviour from sin and death, and to put our whole trust in Thee. Enlighten us more and more by the truth as it is in Jesus. Give us an abiding sense of thy goodness and a childlike confidence in thy love and mercy. Keep us from wandering from thy paths and lead us in the way of life. Defend us from all the assaults of our enemies and

deliver us from all our sins. We acknowledge and confess our sin and guilt; grant us thy pardon for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Purify us by thy grace and help us to consecrate ourselves anew to thy holy service. May we seek day by day to glorify Thee in our bodies and spirits which are thine.

We pray that thy blessing may rest upon the means of grace, upon the preaching of thy word and the administration of thy holy Sacraments. Build up thy people in their most holy faith. Have mercy upon those who know Thee not. Draw them unto Thyself and deliver them from the bondage of sin. Gather them into thy fold, where they shall be free from the power of the evil one. Especially do thou have pity upon all who are in suffering and sorrow. Be a father to the fatherless, a friend to the friendless, support and comfort the sick and prepare the dying for death.

Bless the rulers of our land and nation, the President of the United States, the Governor of this Commonwealth and all who are in authority over us; and cause that justice and truth may abound among us and that all evil be overcome and destroyed. Save and deliver our nation from infidelity and vice, and establish us among the nations of the earth for thy honor and glory, through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We now commit ourselves into thy hands for this night. May thy protection be over us as we lie in defenseless sleep, and give unto us refreshing repose, so that we may be refreshed and strengthened for the labors and duties of the coming week. And when we come to the evening of life, and the shades of death gather around us, be Thou our

strength and support, and receive our spirits into thy rest. And whatever else we need we would express unto Thee in the words which our Saviour has taught us:

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Monday Morning.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, who by the rest of thy holy day and by the peaceful slumbers of the past night hast refreshed our bodies and souls, we give Thee hearty thanks for thy great goodness and acknowledge Thee as the source of all our mercies. Help us to enter upon this new day and upon the duties of this week in thy fear and with a childlike dependence on Thee. As Thou hast ordained that we should eat bread in the sweat of our face, we beseech Thee mercifully to prosper the work of our hands and sanctify the fruit of our labors. Enable us to carry the spirit of thy holy day into all the business of the week. Whilst our bodies and minds are engaged in honest and useful toil, may our hearts still live and rest in Thee. Save us from the spirit of worldliness. Suffer us not to seek our portion in this life; and having food and raiment may we be therewith content.

O Thou great and good Shepherd of thy flock, graciously bless this household dedicated to thy holy service. Continue to provide for all our

proper wants and turn our hearts daily in gratitude and love to Thee. As parents and children may we be united in thy service in this life and together attain to life everlasting, through infinite mercy and grace in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

To thy care we now commend ourselves for this day. Let thy fatherly protection be over us. Preserve us from all evil and suffer us to fall into no sin. Give us strength to walk before Thee in cheerful obedience to the end of life, and when our toils on earth are ended receive us into thy heavenly kingdom, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bless all classes and conditions of men. Establish and prosper the work of all thy people, and defeat and overthrow the plans of those who seek to do evil. May righteousness and truth prevail in the earth, so that thy kingdom may be established in all lands and nations. Give success to the labors of all missionaries in this and in other lands. Build up thy Church among the heathen, and hasten the time when the light of thy gospel shall shine in all the benighted portions of the earth.

Grant unto us the free forgiveness of our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness, so that we may have consciences void of offense toward Thee and towards all men. Give unto us the assurance of our acceptance with Thee, so that we may confide in thy love and mercy through our dear Redeemer, who offered Himself a sacrifice for our sins. Hear us, O Lord, in these petitions, and grant us all that we need for body and soul, for time and eternity, seeing that we ask in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be

done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Monday Evening.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and through Him our Father and the source of all our mercies, blessed be thy name for thy gracious protection throughout this day. Thy goodness is new every morning and thy faithfulness every night. Accept, we beseech Thee, our thanksgiving for all thy mercies and favors bestowed upon us during the day now closed, and be pleased to forgive whatever we have done amiss. Enter not into judgment with us for our sins, but cleanse us from all our guilt in the blood of Christ. Purge our hearts from all evil passions and desires, from envy, hatred and malice. May we never suffer the sun to go down upon our wrath, but may we always seek our rest with a conscience void of offense towards Thee and towards all men.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, we beseech Thee, look graciously upon us as a family. Bless us in body and soul, in basket and store, in our going out and coming in and in all that concerns us. Especially bless us with all spiritual blessings. Help us in all things to put our firm trust and confidence in Thee. Fill our hearts with love to Thee and charity towards our fellowmen, and grant us a sure and joyful hope of everlasting life, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray for thy blessing upon all classes and

conditions of men. Let the light of thy gospel shine upon all nations. Be especially gracious to the land in which we dwell. Bless all who are in authority over us; so rule their hearts and strengthen their hands that they may be strong to oppose wickedness and have courage to support and maintain what is right.

Take pity upon all the poor and the destitute, and put it into the hearts of thy people to provide for their necessary wants. Comfort those who are lying on beds of pain and prepare the dying for death.

We now commit ourselves to thy watchful care for the night before us. Make us to rest in safety and to be quiet from fear of evil. Lead and guide us safely through the day of life; and, when the hour of death comes, may we commit our spirits into thy hands and enter into the heavenly rest; and we will give all the praise to Thee, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, world without end.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Tuesday Morning.

MERCIFUL and gracious God, our heavenly Father, we bow down before Thee and worship Thee, the only true and living God. We thank Thee for the rest of the past night. Help us to remember how many have passed its hours in suffering and sor-

row, whilst Thou hast granted unto us a comfortable and refreshing repose. And now, as we enter upon the care and toil of another day, we invoke thy blessing upon us. Help us to embrace with a believing heart all the sufferings and death of Christ, whereby we may obtain the forgiveness of our sins, and be united to Thee by thy Holy Spirit. Give us strength to crucify the flesh with the affections and lusts thereof, so that sin may no more have dominion over us. Grant us grace to offer ourselves unto Thee a sacrifice of thanksgiving and praise in body and in soul in this life, and to obtain in the world to come life everlasting.

Defend us, O Lord, this day from all motions of sin in our hearts and from all hurtful influences from the world and evil spirits. Be near to us in the hour of temptation and sustain us by thy conquering power. May we be thankful in prosperity and patient in adversity, and trust in thy love and mercy for all future good. Grant us grace to be just and upright in all our dealings, quiet and peaceable among our neighbors, full of compassion towards the needy and afflicted, and ever ready to do good to all men.

We pray for thy blessing upon our fellowmen. Protect and defend thy people from all evil and enable them to walk before Thee in the way of thy commandments. May the impenitent be brought to repentance by thy goodness, and by thy grace be led to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Add to the number of thy faithful worshipers and extend thy kingdom over all the earth. Bless our friends and relatives. Watch over and keep them from all harm and danger, and lead them in the way of righteousness and peace.

O Lord, our prayers are now before Thee. Wherein we fail in asking do not Thou fail in giving, but graciously supply us with all needed blessings, seeing that we ask in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom, with Thee the Father and the Holy Ghost be all honor and glory forever and ever.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Tuesday Evening.

O LORD, our Father in heaven, we thy children once more approach the mercy-seat to offer up our tribute of thanksgiving and praise. Accept our evening sacrifice, and pour out upon us the fulness of thy grace. For thy care of us this day we give Thee hearty thanks. Every good and every perfect gift cometh down from thy bountiful hand. May thy goodness, as it is dispensed to us from day to day, lead us to repentance for our sins and help us to consecrate ourselves anew this night to thy holy service.

O holy Saviour, we bless Thee for what Thou hast done for our salvation. We praise Thee for thy humiliation and for thy death upon the cross to redeem us from sin and death. We bless Thee for thy triumphant resurrection, for thy glorious ascension into heaven and for thine intercession before the Father, as our Advocate and Mediator.

Let the same mind be in us, O Lord, which was in Thee, that we may follow Thee in thy humility,

bear reproach meekly as Thou didst bear it, and forgive our enemies as Thou forgavest thy murderers. Help us to live to Thee, and when we die may we die in Thee, commending our souls into the hands of our heavenly Father with the full assurance of being raised up at the last day in thine own glorious image.

O Lord, our gracious Redeemer, we now commit ourselves into thy hands. Be with us when we lie down and when we rise up; be with us in sickness and in health; and, when we come to the close of our pilgrimage upon earth and our labors here are at an end, receive us with all thy saints in glory everlasting; and all the glory shall be given to Thee, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost art alone worthy of praise and glory forever and ever.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Wednesday Morning.

O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, three persons and one God, have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord, our offenses, and take not

vengeance of our sins, but grant unto us pardon and peace as our trust is in Thee. As Thou hast permitted us to see the light of another day, lift upon us now the light of thy countenance and extend thy favor which is life, and thy loving kindness, which is better than life.

Help us to begin this day in thy fear and to end it to thy glory. We are weak; be Thou our strength. We are ignorant and do easily err; be Thou our light and our guide. We are prone to thoughtlessness and vanity; keep us mindful, we entreat Thee, of death and of judgment, to the end that we may live soberly, righteously and godly in this present evil world.

As Thou hast called us to serve one another and the generation in which we live, give us strength to go forth to our daily duties with cheerfulness and in humble dependence on thy help. Prosper our labors and let the work of our hands be established upon us for thy praise.

Bless us as a family, and grant us grace to love and serve Thee. Bless our kindred, friends and neighbors. Reward all that have done us good and pardon those who have done or wished us evil. Be merciful to all who are in any trouble or affliction, and grant them help and comfort according to their need.

O Thou Head of the Church, merciful and gracious Redeemer, let thy blessing rest upon the labors of thy ministering servants in this and in other lands. Build up the waste places of Zion, and extend her borders until all nations and kindred and tongues shall be gathered into thy fold. Prepare the way for thy second coming in glory, when every knee shall bow and every tongue con-

fess that thou art Lord, to the glory of God the Father, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all glory and honor, forever and ever.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Wednesday Evening.

MOST gracious and merciful God, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, and hast promised mercy and forgiveness to all them that confess and forsake their sins, we come before Thee with a humble sense of our unworthiness, acknowledging our manifold transgressions of thy righteous law in thought, in word and in deed. We have done the things which Thou hast forbidden, and left undone those things which Thou hast commanded. But, O gracious Father, who desirest not the death of the sinner, look upon us, we beseech Thee, in thy Son, Jesus Christ, and for the merits of his sufferings be merciful unto us and grant unto us the full and free forgiveness of our sins.

Let thy Spirit dwell in our hearts, inspiring us with a sincere love of Thee and with a dread of offending Thee. Sanctify us wholly, and preserve us in body, soul and spirit until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to be patient amidst all the changes of this present mortal life. Make us cheerful in faith, joyful in hope, and fill us with thy heavenly peace. Deliver us, good Lord, from

gloominess of mind, from dejection of spirit, from distrust of thy mercies and from fear of death.

We humbly pray for all mankind, especially for our kindred and friends, that they may receive mercies suitable to their wants. If any are estranged from Thee, draw them to Thyself by thy good spirit and grace, that as they share in thy goodness here, they may partake also of thy glory hereafter, through thy mercy in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Bless, O Lord, the poor and needy, the sick and sorrowing, the orphan and the outcast. Have compassion upon all ranks and conditions of men. Sanctify the afflictions of thy hand unto those who endure them and in thine own good time turn their sorrow into joy.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, to continue thy gracious protection over us this night. Into thy hands we commit ourselves and all things that belong to us. Defend us from danger and harm and keep us from the dread and fear of evil, so that we may be refreshed by peaceful rest and be prepared for the duties of the coming day.

O Lord, make us ever mindful of our latter end, and grant us grace so to live that, when the hour comes to leave this world, we may die in peace, rest in hope and attain to life everlasting, through infinite mercy in Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Thursday Morning.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, we thy children in Jesus Christ gather around the mercy-seat in childlike confidence and trust in Thee. We worship Thee as the only true and living God. We bring unto Thee our morning tribute of thanks for thy merciful care over us during another night. Thou hast kept us in peace and safety, while many have spent the night in pain and sorrow. Give us thankful hearts for all thine unspeakable mercies.

May we go forth to the duties and toils of another day in thy fear and with humble reliance on thy protecting power. In our helplessness be Thou our continual strength and support. Be Thou on our right hand and on our left to defend us from all evil, and to strengthen us for all good. Make us diligent in the discharge of all our duties and patient under all our trials. Perfect in us the work of thy heavenly grace and bring us to life everlasting, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray for thy blessing upon the whole family of thy people, whom Thou hast called unto eternal life in thy dear Son. Be Thou with them this day in all their labors, in all their trials and in all their afflictions. Suffer none of them to wander and stray from thy paths. Nourish them with heavenly food and prepare them for thy kingdom of glory.

Merciful Father, we pray for those who are living in sin and who know Thee not. May they listen to thy holy word and yield to the strivings of thy Spirit. O suffer them not to fall into perdition, but save them by thy heavenly grace.

Build up and establish thy kingdom in all the

earth. Give success unto the preaching of thy word. Strengthen and encourage the hearts of all thy ministering servants who stand on the watch towers of Zion. Arm them with power from on high, that they may be strong to rebuke sin and tender to comfort the penitent. Through their labors gather into thy fold all thy scattered sheep, that they may hear thy voice and enter the green pastures of thy heavenly grace.

We pray for our land and nation, that all our rulers may fear and honor Thee and that all the people may dwell in safety and peace. Deliver us from all the power of evil, save us from all disorder and establish us among the nations of the earth for thy praise and glory.

Bless with us this day all our kindred and friends wherever they are, and keep us as a family in thy love and fear. May we together walk in the way of thy commandments while we live, and be gathered at last, with all the redeemed, into thy heavenly kingdom. We ask it all through the infinite merits of thy dear Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Thursday Evening.

O LORD, the high and holy One, who drawest around us the curtains of the night when the day is gone, we approach unto Thee, this evening hour,

in the name of our blessed Redeemer. Give us grace to commune with Thee with true hearts. We believe in Thee as our God and Father; help us to come with childlike trust, and to pour out our prayers before Thee. We believe in thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ; help us to look unto Him as the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. O look down from heaven in mercy upon us, and for his sake forgive us all our sins. We have this day broken thy holy law and come short in our duty. We have not loved and served Thee as we should; but we pray for pardon and beseech Thee to cleanse us from all our sin and guilt. We believe in the Holy Ghost, the blessed Comforter. O help us at all times to listen to his voice in our souls and to follow his guidance, that we may be sanctified and made meet for an inheritance in thy heavenly kingdom. We believe in Thee, Father, Son and Holy Ghost; dwell Thou in our hearts and make us thy children in deed and in truth.

Our hearts go out this night in love towards all thy people, whom Thou hast called in thy Son, Jesus Christ. They are our brethren. We humbly ask Thee to bless them with all temporal and spiritual blessings. They are thine own, and Thou dost love them with unfathomable love. O be merciful to them. Especially take pity upon all who are afflicted, upon all who are in poverty and want, upon all who are lying upon beds of pain and upon all who are sorely tried by temptation. Suffer them not to fall from Thee, merciful Father, but keep them by thy grace unto everlasting life.

We pray for all men. We beseech Thee to spare the impenitent; cut them not down in their sins, but draw them to Thee by thy boundless

love. Send the gospel to the heathen, and bless the labors of those who have gone among them to preach the unsearchable riches of thy holy word. By the tranquil workings of thy perpetual providence prepare the way for calling in the nations that now sit in darkness and in the shadow of spiritual death. May the time soon come when Thou shalt be honored and adored from the river unto the ends of the earth.

We commend unto Thee those who are near and dear to us by the tender ties of relationship. Wherever they are, parted from us on the earth, may thy protection be over them. Keep them from wandering from Thee and impart unto them the riches of thy grace. Keep us all as a family united in thy love and service here, that we may dwell with Thee in peace and joy hereafter.

We pray that Thou wouldst now take us under thy care and protection for this night. When we lie in defenceless sleep suffer no harm to come nigh unto us. Defend us from all approach of evil spirits. May no sudden calamity befall us. If it be thy holy will, may we rest in peace and safety and be spared to see the light of another day. And when all our days and nights on earth are ended, may we sleep in Jesus and dwell with Thee forevermore. And we will give all the praise to Father, Son and Holy Ghost, world without end.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Friday Morning.

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we approach to the throne of grace this morning with reverence and holy fear, begging of Thee mercy and peace, pardon and salvation. Thou art holy, and justly offended with us; but yet Thou art our gracious Lord and merciful Father in Christ Jesus. Be pleased, we beseech Thee, to blot out our sins from thy remembrance and heal our souls, that we may sin no more against Thee. Open our eyes, that we may see and amend our own infirmities and follies; and give us perfect understanding in the way of godliness, that we may walk in it all the days of our pilgrimage. Give us a spirit diligent in the works of our calling, cheerful and zealous in religion, fervent and frequent in prayer, charitable and useful in conversation. Give us a healthful and chaste body, a pure and holy soul, a sanctified and humble spirit; and preserve our body, soul and spirit blameless to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be thy name, O God of all mercies, who hast preserved us through the past night from sickness and sorrow, from sad chances and a violent death, from the malice of the Devil, and the evil effects of our own corrupt nature and infirmity. The outgoings of the morning and evening shall praise Thee, and thy servants shall rejoice in giving Thee glory and thanks for all thy wonderful dealings with the children of men.

Bless, we implore Thee, thy holy Church universal, and especially that portion with which we are connected. Prosper all her institutions of learning. Make them rich sources of sound knowledge

and true piety, and instrumental in furnishing efficient pastors and teachers for our congregations. Grant abundant success to all missionary and other Christian enterprises in which she is engaged, that her waste places may be cultivated and her spiritual destitutions speedily supplied.

Let thy providence and care watch over us this day and all the days of our life, that we may never sin against Thee by idleness or folly, by evil company or private sins, by word or deed, by thought or desire. Enable us so to spend the day that it may be profitable to us and to others, and leave no sorrows or the remembrance of an evil conscience at night; and so conduct us through life by thy Holy Spirit, that when the days of our short abode on earth are done we may die in thy fear and favor and rest in a holy hope, and at last return to the joys of a blessed resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Friday Evening.

MOST merciful God, our heavenly Father, look graciously down upon us from heaven, the habitation of thy holiness, and accept the confession of our sins with our evening sacrifice of thanksgiving and praise. We would come into thy presence in the new and living way which Thou hast opened for us through the mediation of our Lord Jesus

Christ. For his sake incline thine ear unto us and remember us in mercy.

Let thy goodness and forbearance, O Lord, lead us to repentance; and although we have rendered ourselves unworthy of the least of thy mercies, yet for the sake of thy beloved Son, our Saviour, in whom Thou art well pleased, spare us, good Lord, spare us, and be not angry with us forever. Make us mindful that Thou art everywhere present, and knowest our most secret thoughts and ways; that so we may console ourselves with thy gracious nearness, and at the same time fear to offend Thee, while we strive to bring every thought and desire in obedience to thy holy will.

Extend thy blessing, we beseech Thee, to all ranks and conditions of men. Send relief and consolation to the children of affliction and sorrow. Ease those that are in pain. Give deliverance to the oppressed and persecuted, especially to those who suffer for righteousness' sake. Prosper thy kingdom in every land, and give light to them that still sit in darkness and in the region and shadow of death. Bless our nation and all whom Thou hast placed in authority over us, and grant that law and order, justice and peace may prevail throughout the land.

And now that the shadows of evening have again closed around our dwelling, we beseech Thee spread over us the shelter of thy protection during the watches of the night. When we lay us down in sleep, do Thou, O Shepherd of Israel, cause us to rest in safety. Defend us from the terrors of the night and preserve us from all manner of evil. Visit us with the favor which Thou bearest unto thy chosen ones, and cause us to rest safely in the

arms of thy love. When Thou hast refreshed us by sleep, such as Thou givest thine own beloved children, raise us up again in health and peace to praise Thee for thy goodness. Thus may all our days and nights be spent with Thee and in thy blessed service, till we awake in thy likeness and attain unto the rest that remaineth for the people of God. And all the glory shall be to Thee, the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Saturday Morning.

O God, by whom the whole world is governed and preserved, we give Thee humble thanks for thy fatherly care over us, in preserving us from the dangers of the night which is past and in bringing us safely to the beginning of another day.

We gratefully acknowledge our dependence on Thee for the necessities, conveniences and comforts of our daily life, for the means of our well-being in this world and for the hope of everlasting happiness in the world to come.

We give Thee thanks for the gift of thy Son, our Saviour, for the gift of thy Holy Spirit, our Sanctifier and Comforter, for the institution of thy Church, the mother of us all, for the light of thy glorious gospel and the helps of thy grace, and for the pre-

cious promises of pardon, through thy Son, Christ Jesus, in whose blood we have the atonement.

Give us always, we beseech Thee, such a tender sense of thy mercies, that we may be truly thankful for them. Save us from hardness of heart, and from blindness of mind, that we may never neglect or abuse thy grace. Enable us honestly to improve all the talents which Thou hast committed to our trust, and let no worldly business nor love of pleasure draw our minds or hearts from the solemn concerns of the life to come.

Let thy blessing, O Lord, be upon our persons, upon our labors, upon our substance and upon all that belongs to us. In prosperity may we not forget Thee, and in adversity may we still trust in thy wisdom, mercy and love, assured that whatever evils Thou dost send upon us in this vale of tears Thou wilt turn them to our good.

Defend us, O Lord, and those who are near and dear to us against the assaults of our enemies. Grant that this day we fall into no sin neither run into any kind of danger. May all our doings be ordered by Thee and meet with thy favor and blessing; that so we may walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance.

Into thy hands, gracious Father, we now commend ourselves for this day and for all coming time. Glorify Thyself in all that we do and suffer; and grant us, we beseech Thee, in this world knowledge of thy truth and in the world to come life everlasting, through the mercy and mediation of Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, be all honor and glory, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

OUR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*

Saturday Evening.

O LORD GOD, our heavenly Father, who hast brought us safely through another day and to the close of another week, unto Thee we render our humble and hearty thanks. Give us, we beseech Thee, a due sense of the manifold favors Thou hast bestowed upon us through life ; and especially teach us to value as we ought thy great mercy in Christ Jesus, our Lord, through whom alone we enjoy the means of grace and the hope of glory.

We confess, O Lord, that we have not served Thee according to the measure of our knowledge and ability. We have again and again broken thy laws and commandments, we have too much neglected thy warnings, we have resisted the quiet influences of thy Holy Spirit, and we have just cause to fear thy righteous judgments. We acknowledge and bewail our unworthiness. O merciful Father, accept our penitence, and give us the comforting assurance of pardon. By thy manifold and great mercies, by the all-sufficient merits of thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ, by his agony and bloody sweat, by his bitter cross and passion, by his glorious resurrection and ascension, by his continual intercession for us at thy right hand, and by the grace and comforts of the Holy Ghost, good Lord deliver us.

In all the changes and trials of this mortal life, in all time of our prosperity and in all time of our adversity, in the hour of death and in the day of judgment, good Lord, deliver us.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, extend thy mercy to the whole race of mankind. Have pity upon the nations that know Thee not; cause the light of thy glorious gospel to shine among them, and visit them with thy salvation.

Look with pity and compassion, O Lord, upon those who are in affliction and temptation, upon the poor, the sick and the dying; strengthen and support them, and give them in thine own good time a happy issue out of all their sufferings.

Be merciful and gracious, O God, to our kindred and friends; forgive our enemies; reward our benefactors; and grant that we, with all thy people everywhere, may have grace to serve Thee with full purpose of heart, and so be made partakers at last of eternal bliss in thy presence in heaven.

And now, most gracious Father, who hast delivered our eyes from tears, our feet from falling and our souls from death, take us, we entreat Thee, under thy watchful care this night; guard us from all evil and harm, and bring us to the light and prepare us for the duties of the coming Sabbath; and we will praise Thee, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. *Amen.*